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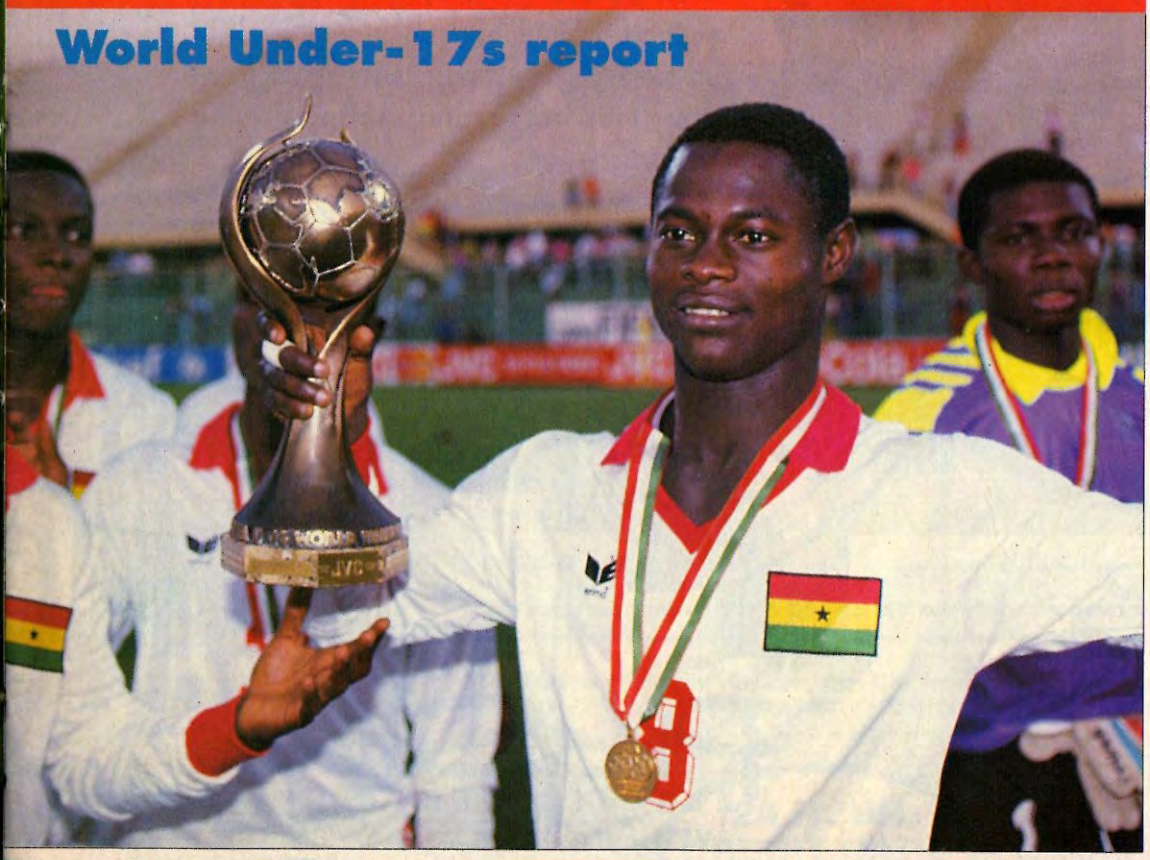

TANJU'S THREAT TO ENGLAND

SPOTLIGHT ON

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EUROPEAN CUP FIRST ROUND DETAILS

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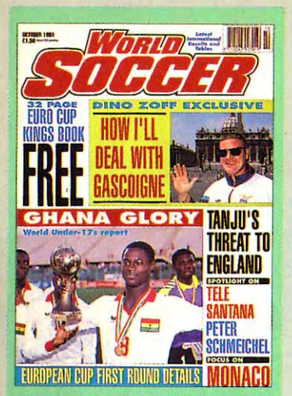

Nil Lamptey with the U-17 trophy

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WORLD SOCCER

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WHAT'S ON?

RECORD WORLD CUP ENTRY FOR USA' 94

A RECORD total of 134 nations had entered for the 1994 World Cup when the applications deadline expired on September 14. The previous record was 123, for the 1990 event. The draw for the qualifying sections takes place in Madison Square Garden, New York, on December 8. The finals will open on June 17, 1994, and end on July 17.

THIS MONTH:

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1/2
European cups' first round, second legs

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8
Oct 8 = Munich - UNICEF match
Germany v World XI

Soviet Union v Italy - October 9

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
European championship:
Austria v Denmark
Finland v Greece
Hungary v Belgium
Spain v France
Soviet Union v Italy

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16
European championship:
Czechoslovakia v Albania
Bulgaria v San Marino
Romania v Scotland
Faroe Islands v Yugoslavia
Northern Ireland v Austria
Germany v Wales
Holland v Portugal
Poland v Rep Ireland
England v Turkey

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
Oct 19 = Washington/RFK Stadium - intl friendly
United States v North Korea

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 22/23
European cups, second round, first legs

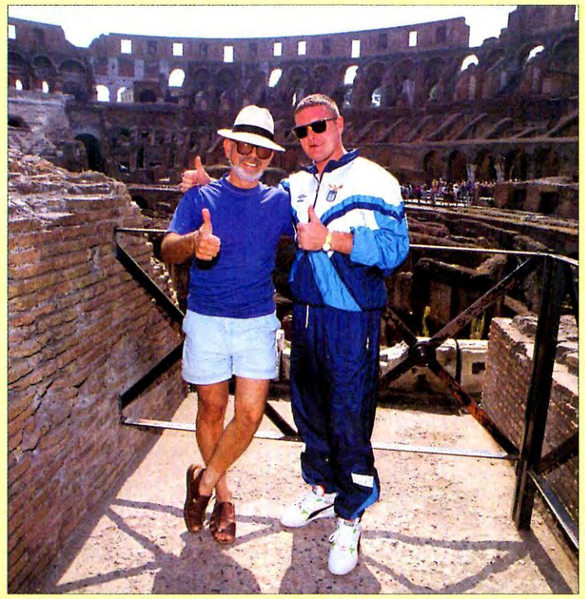
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30
European championship:
Hungary v Norway
Greece v Finland

Germany v Wales - October 16

WE'LL MAKE GAZZA A WORLD BEATER

says Lazio coach DINO ZOFF

Clowning . . . at the controls of an aeroplane, complete with pilot's cap.



Visiting . . . the Coliseum with his business advisor Mel Stein.

They say he must be more mature; they say he must learn to keep his emotions under control; they say he must be able to adapt to the Italian way of life...

All this advice, and much more, has been fired from every conceivable angle and directed towards Paul Gascoigne as he prepares for his new life among the soccer-crazed citizens of Rome.

The day of reckoning for the Geordie boy who would be king is, of course, still a long way off. He will not become a Lazio player, officially, until May 1992.

But, solely on the evidence of his first visit to the Eternal City, the message that keeps coming across from Lazio players, fans and management alike is the same: be yourself and you'll be a star.

Gazza the joker...Gazza the extrovert...Gazza the entertainer. These are the qualities which, even before he's put boot to ball as a Lazio player, have already endeared him to at least half the population of Rome.

He came; he saw; he conquered. But this, of course, is just the beginning. The real test is still to come.

Whether Gazza the player can meet the demands and expectations already met by Gazza the personality remains open for debate, and will do so for the foreseeable future.

Lazio coach Dino Zoff, for one, harbours no fears and refuses to contemplate anything but a bright and prosperous relationship between club and cavalier.

"Paul Gascoigne is a truly remarkable character," says Zoff, the former Italian goalkeeping hero. And a wry smile breaks across his sombre face as he continues: "Wherever he goes and whatever he does, he creates enthusiasm. We do not want to change that."

One thing Zoff wishes he could change, however, is the moment of madness which almost put pay to Gascoigne's lucrative move to Lazio and, worse still, threatened to wreck the career of one of English soccer's unique talents.

The sight of a hyped-up Gascoigne launching himself into those two infamous FA Cup Final challenges still makes Zoff cringe.

But, rather than provide more ammunition for the Gazza firing squad, Zoff prefers to make excuses for what many deemed "irrational behaviour".

Zoff, seemingly understanding the complex nature and characteristics of the Spurs and England midfielder, suggests: "The accident at Wembley was an example of the struggle within himself.

"He could have spared himself in the Cup Final, but he didn't. Even allowing for the fact that he was about to complete a big transfer, he was still giving it his all."

Opinion

Commendable, or crazy? Everyone with a passing interest in the sport seems to have passed an opinion. But hindsight changes nothing.

"The news came as a shock to us all, a very great shock," Zoff laments. "I was counting on him for this season and obviously we are going to miss him. He is beyond value.

"But I have to concentrate on the present and that means a season without Paul Gascoigne. To have him in the team now is a dream which is not going to happen."

Such was the seriousness of Gascoigne's injury and the length of time set aside for his recovery that many have suggested he will never be the same player again. Once again Zoff adopts the more positive approach.

Together, he believes, Gascoigne and Lazio can take the Italian League by storm.

And he's prepared to go even further by suggesting: "there is no end to what he can achieve, not just in Italian football but at world level, and I am confident he can become what everyone expects him to become."

Those expectations, like the rewards success will bring, will be great.

Already Lazio fans are united in the belief that Gazza, virtually single-handed, can transform their club from an average, middle-of-the-table outfit into potential champions.

Gascoigne is under no illusions, but he remains undaunted by the prospect. "Lazio drew 19 of their League games last season, so had they won ten or 12 of those games they would have been in with a shout for the title," he explains.

"Hopefully I can provide the difference."

Gazza's first look at his new club in action came during his recent visit to Rome when Lazio took on Real Madrid in a prestigious pre-season friendly and lost in a penalty shoot-out.

Blessed with the attacking flair of the German pair Karl-Heinz Riedle and Thomas Doll, together with the precocious talents of the Uruguayan star Ruben Sosa, Lazio have the sort of players Gazza will relish playing alongside.

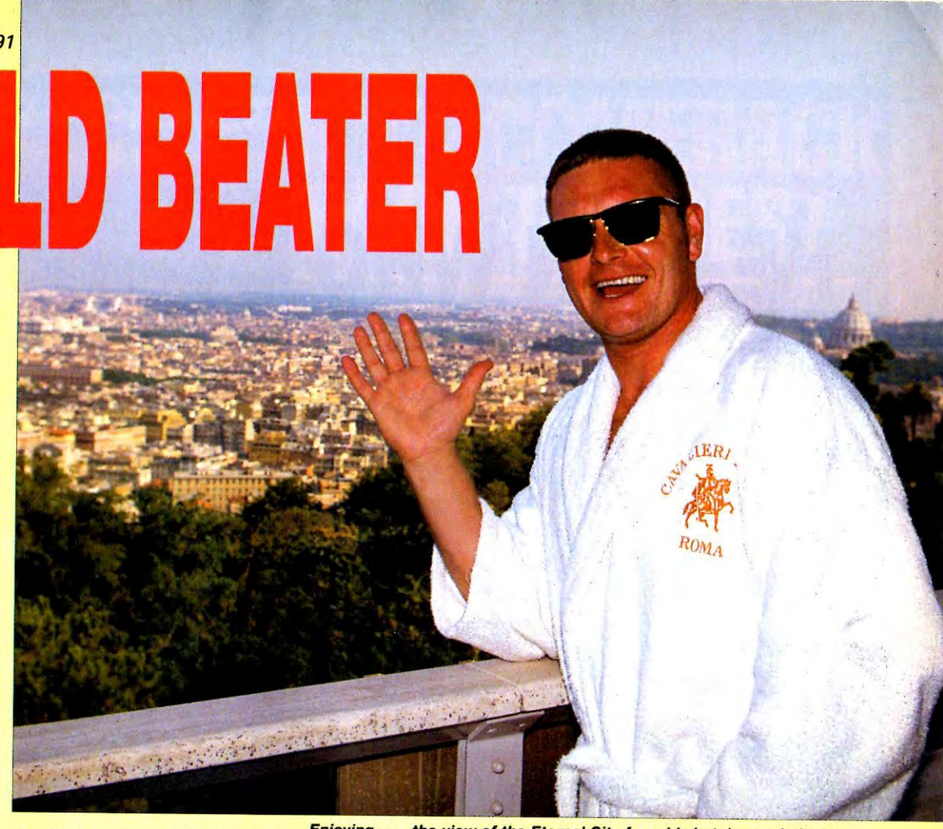
And his future team-mates are in no doubt that the midfield inspiration he can provide, along with his telling contributions from dead-ball situations, will give them the cutting edge that has been missing.

"He has the ability to make things happen and create positive situations," says midfielder Claudio Sclosa. "In the Italian League, where games are very tight, that will be a telling factor. He will be perfectly suited to the Italian game.

"We are all delighted that he is going to be joining Lazio; we just wish he was playing for us now and not next season.

"As for him winning the Championship for Lazio, that is a difficult question to answer because the League is very tough and takes more than one person to inspire such success. But we certainly stand a better chance with Paul Gascoigne than without him."

DAVE SMITH



Enjoying . . . the view of the Eternal City from his hotel room balcony.

Meeting . . . his new Lazio teammates for the first time.

PELE, a star of yesteryear, and Thomas Doll, a star of today, have sharply contrasting views on how Paul Gascoigne should tackle his Italian adventure — fitness permitting.

The Brazilian thinks Gascoigne should marry, that a stabilising domestic influence would prove the key to success in Italy and help him cope with the enormous pressures he will face from fans, teammates, opponents and the media.

Doll, however, in his first season with Lazio after his transfer from Hamburg, disagrees.

Doll says: "Gascoigne needs to whip himself up a bit to be the player he is. If he was calm and cool he just wouldn't be the same. He came over to Rome when we played a pre-season friendly against Real Madrid and he seemed a friendly, pleasant guy. The fans have taken to him. When he comes over to play in front of them, then he should also play to them."

SPOTLIGHT ON TANJU COLAK

THE MAN WHO SPLIT A CITY

Tanju's move increases the Istanbul rivalry

GALATASARAY fans remain in a state of shock after the £1 million transfer of striker Tanju Colak to Istanbul rivals Fenerbahce. And with good reason.

Tanju had scored 107 League goals since joining Galatasaray from Samsunspor in 1987, and claimed almost half the team's total over the past four seasons.

In his first year in Galatasaray's red and yellow stripes he proved an instant hit.

His 39 goals helped the club to the championship and won him the adidas Golden Boot as Europe's top league goalscorer.

As last season drew to its close, Tanju appeared set to become the continent's leading marksman again.

Five against Aydinspor on the last day of the season took him to 31 and gave him the lead in the adidas Golden Boot race, but he was overtaken by Red Star Belgrade's Darko Pancev.

Tanju could console himself with second place in the league and an inevitable goal in Galatasaray's 3-1 Cup Final victory over Ankaragucu.

At the time of his 1988 adidas Golden Boot triumph, he spoke of a "revolution" among the club's supporters if he ever left Galatasaray. The wording of that prediction might seem exaggerated, but today Tanju can verify the anger his eventual departure provoked...even though he brought the club a Turkish record fee.

While the Galatasaray faithful heatedly blamed club president Alp Yalman for the striker's exit, Fenerbahce chief Metin Asik cannot conceal his pleasure in pulling off the coup.

"If I have bought the best centre-forward in Turkey, it's because this club deserve it," says Asik.

Retired

Fenerbahce finished last season in a poor fifth place and the president hopes improved fortunes will result from the arrivals of Tanju, ex-Aston Villa manager Dr. Josef Venglos, Romanian international Dan Petrescu and keeper Engin Ipekoglu from champions Besiktas.

Ipekoglu was signed to replace German veteran Toni Schumacher, who has now retired.

Tanju says: "I had hoped to try my luck abroad three years ago. I was contacted by Paris Saint-Germain, Monaco, Rapid Vienna, Fiorentina and Real Sociedad. But no club took their initial interest any further.

"Galatasaray put an expensive price on my head and no doubt foreign clubs were discouraged by that. For a long time I was annoyed with my directors, but it's all in the past now."

Incidentally, Tanju has not just joined a new club. He has also opted to perform in another continent. Galatasaray are based in the European half of Istanbul, while Fenerbahce are across the Bosphorus on the Asiatic side.

Europe or Asia, Tanju is confident he can maintain his domestic scoring prowess. "In the penalty area there are few strikers better than me in Europe," he asserts. "Some might be more powerful or faster, but nobody has my nose for goals."

Tanju Colak was born in the Black Sea port of Samsun on November 10, 1963. As a youngster his idol was West German striker Gerd Muller and, like "Der Bomber", Tanju compensated for a certain lack of pace and technique with an instinctive flair for goals.

He signed for his home-town club and graduated through the ranks to the first team. The goals began to flow at an ever-increasing rate and in the 1985-86 season his total of 33 earned him third place in the adidas Golden Boot, behind Marco Van Basten and Oleg Protasov.

Record

In the next year he scored a further 35 times and earned a then Turkish record £200,000 move to Galatasaray. He settled immediately in the capital and by that season's final curtain he was Europe's top scorer and the owner of a championship medal.

More glory came Tanju's way during 1988-89, when he provided the goals to enable Galatasaray to become the first Turkish side to reach the semi-finals of the Champions' Cup.

Certainly the Swiss defenders from Neuchatel Xamax would not deny just how dangerous he could be in the penalty area. Galatasaray trailed 3-0 from the second round first leg, but a Tanju hat-trick on his birthday sealed a remarkable 5-0 recovery in the return.

Galatasaray's quarter-final opponents were Monaco, and a few weeks before the opening tie in Monte Carlo Tanju went there for the adidas Golden Boot awards.

He promised a goal against the French and duly supplied a fearless diving header, to give Galatasaray a vital 1-0 win that ultimately ensured passage to the last four.

Tanju and company were eliminated at that stage by Steaua Bucharest, but in his opinion Turkish football had at least shown that it could compete with Europe's best.

"There are many who claim that soccer in Turkey is of a poor standard," he says. "But our championship is very competitive and there is a great rivalry between clubs like Fenerbahce, Galatasaray, Besiktas and Trabzonspor."

But while his club form has been prolific, Tanju has not done as well at international level.

One match he would like to forget is his full debut for Turkey in April 1984.

That day he played out of position in midfield and contributed little as his country were thrashed 6-0 in Istanbul by Hungary.

Tanju . . . crossed the Bosphorus to the other side of the city.

The Turks have not scored in four qualifying games for the European Championships, but Tanju must be in with a reasonable chance of getting a goal in either of their last two matches — against England at Wembley on October 16 and at home to the Republic of Ireland on November 13.

If anyone can bring about a surprise result in one or both of these fixtures, Tanju's the man.

Tanju admits he has lacked consistency for Turkey, but prefers to blame the national team's recent disappointing results on lack of patience among coaches and administrators.

"We have some good players and might have qualified for Italia '90," he says. "Yet after every match five or six players are changed.

"We ought to have an established nucleus to the side and not panic after a bad result. We will never progress like that."

NICK BIDWELL WS

ARSENAL CELEBRATE COMEBACK WITH SIX OF THE BEST

EUROPEAN CUPS ROUND-UP
By KEIR RADNEDGE

THE ART of goal-scoring is alive and well and is on display in the three European club tournaments.

No fewer than three players scored four goals apiece — Arsenal's Alan Smith, Benfica's Sergei Yuran and Liverpool's Dean Saunders. Then there were "orthodox" hat- tricks for Marseille's Jean-Pierre Papin and Werder Bremen's Wynton Rufer.

Arsenal were the first English club in the Champions' Cup since the 1985 Heysel disaster. They trounced FK Austria 6-1 thanks to a superb second-half display of power and precision. The Austrians, who had played neatly and produced the odd threat to David Seaman in the first half, had no answers.

FK Austria boss Herbert Prohaska said: "Arsenal proved that being out of European competition for so long has been no real handicap. They are clearly one of the best sides in Europe and will go a long way in the Cup. They're much stronger now then when we watched them earlier in the season."

Smith said this was the first time he had scored four goals in a game. Arsenal manager George Graham said: "We have a lovely tradition in England of knocking ourselves but this showed what English football is all about. We put on a powerful show and we would have given any team a run for their money."

Arsenal's Alan Smith (right) fires home his second goal against FK Austria.

Occasions

Liverpool were back in Europe for the first time since Heysel, of course. Intriguingly their second-lowest attendance for a European match turned up to see Saunders stage his four-goal show in the 6-1 beating of Finland's Kuusysi Lahti in the UEFA Cup.

Saunders, a £2.9million summer arrival at Anfield, said: "It's a smashing feeling to score four times in a match for the first time and in my first European tie. Occasions like this were part of the reason I joined Liverpool — they are the type of game any player wants to take part in."

A man Liverpool considered buying, Soviet youngster Yuran, was another four-goal hero. He scored his first goals since transferring from Kiev to Benfica a during the summer in the 6-0 victory away to Hamrun Spartans in the Champions' Cup. Yuran completed his hat-trick in eight minutes late in the first half and added No 4 seven minutes from time.

Marseille skipper Jean-Pierre Papin insisted before their tie against Union Sportive of Luxembourg that he and his teammates intended to make no slip-ups this season on the way to making amends for their shoot-out defeat in last season's Champions' Cup Final.

Papin underlined his words in inimitable style with a hat-trick in Marseille's 5-0 win in Luxembourg. Yet the fact is that Marseille remain far from stable, with reports of an uncertain relationship existing between new coach Tomislav Ivic and his players.

A first-half hat-trick from New Zealand striker Rufer brought Werder Bremen a comfortable six-goal victory away to FC Bacau in Romania. Rufer scored his first goal in the ninth minute and his third in the 32nd.

The seeding system meant there were few "big" matches in the first round of either Champions' Cup, Cup-winners' Cup or UEFA Cup.

All the Yugoslav teams managed to complete their first leg ties despite being forced, either by the draw or by the tragic circumstances of civil war, to play abroad. Red Star Belgrade had few problems putting four goals past Portadown in Szeged, Hungary — though their journey would have been necessary anyway because of a home ground ban after hooligan trouble last term.

Dinamo Zagreb made a slow start against Trabzonspor in the UEFA Cup and were 3-0 down at one stage before shaking the rust out of their Croatian system and pulling the score back to 2-3.

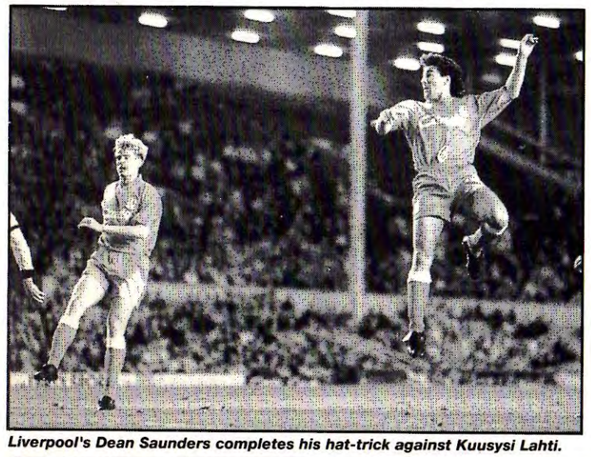
But Hajduk Split were a revelation. They had enormous problems travelling up to Linz, Austria, to play Tottenham. But, once there, they turned on a lively display of skill and style and Tottenham were lucky to escape with only a one-goal deficit.

As for other big guns in the Champions' Cup, PSV Eindhoven forced a 1-1 draw away to Besiktas in a clash between English coaches Gordon Milne and Bobby Robson; two goals from Michael Laudrup brought Barcelona a 3-0 win over Hansa Rostock; and Sampdoria crushed Rosenborg of Norway 5-0.

Performances of note in the Cup-winners' Cup included Roma's 2-1 win away to CSKA Moscow while holders Manchester United claimed the not-to-be-lightly-dismissed security of a goalless away draw to Athinaikos in Greece.

In the UEFA Cup, former title-holders Real Madrid won 2-1 away to Slovan Bratislava, German league leaders Eintracht Frankfurt put six past Spora Luxembourg.

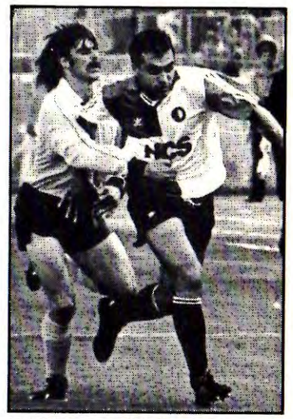
Finally, Irish eyes were smiling in both the Champions' Cup and the UEFA Cup. Dundalk forced a 1-1 draw away to Honved and Cork City held Bayern Munich 1-1 at home.



Liverpool's Dean Saunders completes his hat-trick against Kuusysi Lahti.

● **DIEGO MARADONA was handed a 14-month suspended jail sentence and fined £2,000 in Naples for possession of cocaine. Maradona was not in court to hear the sentence since he remains on bail on drugs charges in Buenos Aires.**

Cork City's Paul Bannon battles with Bayern Munich's Mazinho.



Partizan played well to hold Feyenoord to a 0-0 draw in Tirana.

SPOTLIGHT ON

HANS ESKILSSON BY TIM MANSEL

Eskilsson . . . playing again with Boavista.

Hans is back in the mainstream

SWEDISH striker Hans Eskilsson is playing football again after a year's enforced absence.

Enforced not by broken leg, strained ligament or damaged cartilage, but by a contractual dispute with his erstwhile employers, Portugal's Sporting Lisbon.

After a special ruling by FIFA Eskilsson, 25, is now kicking a ball in earnest again — and back in Portugal, with Boavista.

Eskilsson was a part-timer with Hammarby in Stockholm when he made his name in the spring of 1988.

Playing for Sweden in the final of a four-nation tournament in Berlin, he scored one of the two goals that beat the Soviet Union. A number of clubs showed an interest — he signed a contract which gave Bologna first option — before Sporting came up with an offer too attractive to refuse.

Dropped

He says: "I moved to Portugal in August 1988. But during the first three months I was away more than I was there, because of international matches and then the Olympic Games. So when I finally got back I had to start on the bench.

Then I got into the team, got dropped and then got a thigh injury, so I was out for another three months."

At the end of that first season the club had more foreign players than it knew what to do with, and Eskilsson found himself surplus to requirements and out on loan to Sporting Braga.

He says: "I enjoyed it there, but as far as the football went we were very defensive — the point that we sometimes played away games with no forwards, or at the most one, shows that and I was used to playing with at least two.

"So it was difficult on the pitch, but I really enjoyed it at the club and in the town.

There was a big interest in football and always lots of people at the games." Eskilsson played his last game for Braga in May 1990.

Returned

He returned to Sporting Lisbon to find he was still surplus to requirements.

Not only that, the club were in the throes of a financial crisis and refused to pay him, despite his five-year contract.

"They just refused to fulfil the contract. I didn't get my salary, I didn't have anywhere to live, I wasn't allowed to train with the team, they took my car back. In the end I was forced to go back to Sweden — I had nothing in Portugal."

Eskilsson returned home in August last year.

It then took months to persuade Sporting Lisbon to come to some kind of agreement over the money he claimed they owed.

It was not until the beginning of April that he finally played a competitive match again, at the beginning of the Swedish season for AIK of Stockholm on an amateur basis.

THE CHECKING GAME

Svensson makes a good start

AFTER Sweden's 4-0 victory over Denmark in June, Thomas Brolin and Jonas Thern rushed to the television set in the clubhouse at Norrkoping.

This was Saturday afternoon, and Saturday afternoon means trotting, that form of racing where the driver is mounted on a flimsy-looking two-wheeler behind a horse. A popular spectacle in Sweden, but not in Italy or Portugal, where Brolin and Thern earn a living.

Manager Tommy Svensson stood to one side, giving interviews and looking forward to a holiday, in the knowledge he would not be disturbed during the following couple of weeks by news of injuries to key players from all over Europe.

Svensson spends much of his time checking on players hundreds of miles from home.

"For most of them it's good to go abroad," he says. "If they go to good clubs and get to play regularly, that helps them to develop. Anders Limpar, for example. It's been a very positive development for him to go to Arsenal. He'd never have been as good if he'd stayed here in Sweden.

"On the other hand, there's Johnny Ekstrom. He was very good when he left Sweden, but hasn't been a success abroad."

Back in the 1970s Svensson spent two years as a player with Standard Liege, a time he now regards as the best in his career."

"I became stronger, physically and mentally," he says. "I was able to play in a tougher league, and I enjoyed the atmosphere abroad. It's a bit of a shame that I didn't stay longer."

His career in Belgium was cut short by the sudden death of his mother, killed in a car accident. He decided to return home "for my father's sake."

Svensson has been manager of Sweden since the beginning of the year. When he was offered the job, shortly after Sweden's dismal performance in the World Cup in Italy, he was abroad again, this time as manager of Tromso in Norway.

He says he was happy there, and had never really considered the possibility of taking over the national team.

"Last summer there was a bit of speculation in the Swedish newspapers, and my name was mentioned," he says. "But I hadn't been thinking about it much. It came as a surprise to me when I got the chance, but it was difficult to turn such a job down."

Experienced

The job meant picking up the pieces left by Olle Nordin, and was not made easier by the decision of one of Sweden's most experienced footballers, Glenn Hysen, to retire from the international game.

"It wasn't a total surprise," admits Svensson. "I realised that Glenn, who is now over 30 and has played so much, had a few motivation problems. And if you've motivation problems, you shouldn't be in the Swedish team."

Since taking over Svensson has re-modelled the defence, employing a sweeper and two central markers in a back three — "that way we get more players in midfield" — and has introduced a number of young players to international football.

They include Mikael Nilsson of IFK Gothenburg, as sweeper, Hakan Mild, also of Gothenburg, in midfield, and Malmo FF forward Martin Dahlin.

After five matches in charge, Svensson had watched his side win twice, draw twice and lose once, scoring 16 goals and conceding seven. He's happy with this.

Hysen . . . his retirement was a big loss.

"We have an interesting team on the way, and for next year's European Championship here in Sweden we can be very dangerous," he says.

Svensson's length of tenure, as with all football managers, depends on results. His agreement with the Swedish FA runs until the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

"I hope I'll be here that long," he says with a smile. "But I won't make any decisions until after the European Championship."

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THE BOOT THAT BREAKS THE MOULD *from* GOLA®

by Paul Gardner

COLLEGES GO THEIR OWN SWEET WAY

This is downright embarrassing to the USSF, which is supposed to enforce FIFA's authority throughout the land. To have the colleges making up their own rules "is not desirable," says USSF secretary Hank Steinbrecher, "clearly we'd like to have everyone playing by the same rules."

But the colleges are not listening — especially when it comes to substitution. Almost anyone on the bench during a college game can get into the game, and come out, and get back in again.

There are certain restrictions, which seemed designed to make the referee's job a nightmare. A player cannot re-enter in the first half, or in overtime. But can in the second half.

Puritanical

Except that a goalkeeper can re-enter at any time — provided he re-enters as a goalkeeper, and not as a field player. And, an injured player, who has been substituted, can re-enter — provided he was injured by an opponent who received a yellow or red card for the foul.

Actually, fouling is not dealt with too harshly, anyway. A player has to amass five yellow cards before being suspended. But the colleges are puritanical about foul language.

Referees are instructed to "eject from the game, without previous caution" anyone who "is abusive in language or gesture" — even if the swearing is directed at a team-mate, or even himself. Though the player might get away with just a yellow if the referee regards the offence as "incidental vulgar or profane language."

APSL pay their dues to the big league

THE American Professional Soccer League has paid the United States Soccer Federation the $100,000 fee required for membership in the USSF's professional division.

The APSL thus becomes the first outdoor league to have this status since the North American Soccer League, the league of the Cosmos, collapsed in 1984.

More money — or, at least, the pledge of more money — must follow. The USSF regulations require that each club in the league post a $100,000 performance bond before being allowed to play.

Potential

Just how many teams the APSL will have in 1992 remains anyone's guess. Of the current eight clubs, two — the Penn-Jersey Spirit and the Miami Freedom — are not in the best of financial health. But the APSL says it is "currently talking with potential expansion team owners who hope to field teams in 1992."

Other possibilities for enlarging the league's membership are FC Seattle and the New Jersey Eagles. These are two formerly-active clubs which sat out the 1991 season, with the intention of returning in 1992.

The path to the APSL's 1991 final series featured a major upset when the Maryland Bays — with the regular season's best record of 19 wins and only 2 losses — were beaten in the play-off semi-final by the Albany Capitals, who had a record of only 10 wins and 11 losses.

The other finalists, were, as expected, the San Francisco Bay Blackhawks — but they needed two overtime games before disposing of the Fort Lauderdale Strikers in the semi-final.

The score was 1-0 in both games, which faithfully reflects the strength of the Blackhawks defence, with only 17 goals conceeded in 21 games. That defence was further honoured when it was selected, en masse, to the 1991 All-APSL Team:

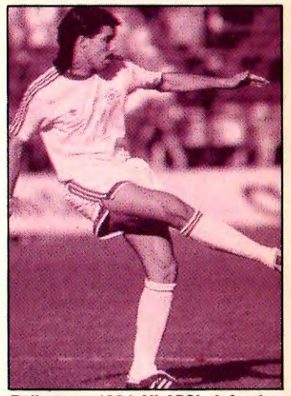
Goalkeeper: Mark Dougherty (San Francisco).

Defenders: Marcelo Balboa, Troy Dayak, Danny Pena, Derek Van Rheenen (all San Francisco).

Midfielders: Kevin Sloan (Maryland), Townsend Qin (San Francisco), Ramiro Borja (Albany).

Forwards: Jean Harbor (Maryland), Ezekiel Zico Doe (Colorado), Derek Sanderson (Fort Lauderdale).

Maryland's Jean Harbor (with 17 goals during the season) took the APSL's Most Valuable Player award. Rookie (i.e. Newcomer) of the Year was Colorado's Zico Doe, while Gary Hindley of Maryland was Coach of the Year. The awards were based on voting by the APSL head coaches.


Balboa . . . 1991 All-APSL defender.

APSL 1991 Final Standings:

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
Fort Lauderdale	21	15	6	43	23	117
Albany Capitals	21	10	11	27	32	92
Tampa Bay	21	8	13	26	27	69
Penn-Jersey	21	6	15	27	52	61
Miami Freedom	21	6	15	20	53	52
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Maryland Bays	21	19	2	55	23	158
S.F. Bay B'hwks	21	17	4	37	17	126
Colorado Foxes	21	13	8	37	28	111

Play-off Semi-finals (home & away): Albany 2 Maryland 1 (o/t), Maryland 2 Albany 1 (ALBANY won series on pens), San Francisco 1 Ft. Lauderdale 0 (o/t), Ft. Lauderdale 0 San Francisco 1 (o/t) (SAN FRANCISCO won series 2-0)

FINAL (home and away): San Francisco Bay Blackhawks v Albany Capitals.

ALL SMILES

PRESIDENT Alan Rothenberg and general secretary Hank Steinbrecher, the USSF's two top guys, are always ready with a welcoming smile. Lately the smiles have been getting broader as the good news has rolled in.

United States teams have been winning, fans have been rolling up in increasing numbers, sponsors have been signing up, and Steinbrecher has declared that "From the many accomplishments of our teams in international competition...I think it's safe to say 'our time has come'."

The string of successes is pretty impressive. Since Bora Milutinovic took over the national team, his record is eight wins, three losses and four draws. Opponents beaten include Uruguay, Romania and Mexico.

The USA, Gold Cup winners, are now No. 1 in the CONCACAF region, a position held by Mexico for as long as anyone can remember.

To ram home the point that Mexico have been ousted, the US Olympic team took the soccer title at the Pan-American Games, beating Mexico in the final match.

The Olympic team, on course for a place in Barcelona, won through to the second round of the qualifying tournament by disposing of Haiti and Panama by 18 goals to two.

The women romped away with the CONCACAF tournament, winning all five games by a combined score of 49-0, thus gaining a place in the first Women's World Cup, being staged by China in November.

The University team finished fifth in the World University games in Sheffield, their best-ever placing.

The successes continued at the under-17 World Cup in Italy, where the USA — for the first time ever, at any level — beat both Italy and Argentina to advance to the second round.

Alan Rothenberg — smiling, of course — said after the Italy game "It's like we're on a never-ending roll."

National

There has been a hiccup or two, naturally. The national team crashed in Austria, 4-0 to club side Tirol. But the team's confidence is now high enough to ignore even a defeat of that size. Milutinovic shook it off with "I'm not worried. We're better than Tirol, and we know it. There are some little things we need to work on."

And if that sounded like so much hollow boasting, the team quickly proved otherwise. A week later they travelled to Bucharest, and beat Romania 2-0.

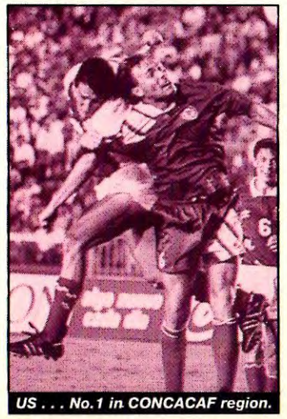
The reasons for the USA's surge included one very important detail: the attention being paid to proper preparation.

The days of the "telephone teams" — put together by a few long distance calls, meeting for the first time at the airport — are gone.

Between May and August the Olympic team played 12 competitive games, 10 of them away. Roy Rass, coach of the under-17 team, recalls: "In 1987, preparing for the World Cup in Canada, we had ONE training session before the qualifying tournament! Now we get much more time and the Federation help in a much more positive way."

The financial backing for this expansion comes from the sponsors. Here again, there has been spectacular progress since Rothenberg replaced Werner Fricker as USSF President in August 1990.

"We had no sponsors then," says Rothenberg. "They weren't coming in, or they'd dropped out because of disillusionment. In a year, we've signed seven."


US . . . No.1 in CONCACAF region.

HUGO BANDI IN THE CLEAR

TOURNAMENT promoter Hugo Bandi has been given the all-clear by CONCACAF after an inquiry into allegations concerning the first Central American Nations' championship.

Bandi was furious about bribery accusations levelled by the Honduras goalkeeper, Bellarmino Rivera.

Chuck Blazer, the CONCACAF general secretary, carried out an investigation into the matter, which centred on Honduras' 2-1 win over El Salvador. He concluded that the allegations were totally without foundation.

Subsequently the Honduras federation apologised to Bandi over what it termed "a misunderstanding."

Bandi said: "I'm delighted to have been vindicated. I consider I have an impeccable reputation all over the world and I was very upset that anyone should make such claims against me."

He has since promoted two further tournaments, in Los Angeles and San Francisco.

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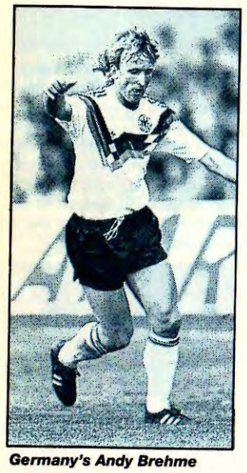

Germany's Andy Brehme

As usual, the results will be announced in World Soccer's December edition. As usual, we look forward to the massive response from our readership which the poll has drawn in the past.

If you need help sorting out candidates you need look only as far as the major competitions of the past year.

Robert Prosinecki and Darko Pancev were decisive in Red Star's success in the Champions' Cup; Jean-Pierre Papin proved arguably Europe's most lethal marksman in both Marseille's run to the Champions' Cup Final and their continued domination of French domestic football; Mark Hughes and Bryan Robson drove Manchester United to glory in the Cup-winners' Cup; Germany's Lothar Matthaus, Jurgen Klinsmann and Andy Brehme followed up their 1990 World Cup success by succeeding at club level with Internazionale in the UEFA Cup.

In South America, Gabriel Batistuta was a new hero and Sergio Goycochea a comparatively old one as Argentina began their international rehabilitation by winning the South American championship.

In the managerial stakes Argentina's Coco Basile, France's Michel Platini, Manchester United's Alex Ferguson and — long overdue his recognition — Yugoslav veteran manager Vujadin Boskov, who steered Sampdoria to their first-ever Italian league title.

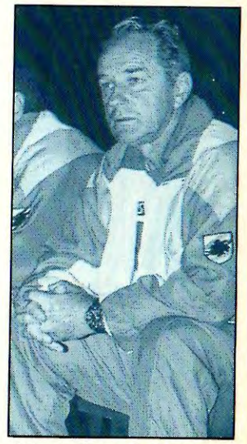
On the team front, Argentina (thanks to the Copa America), France (for their revival in the European championship qualifiers), Sampdoria, Barcelona, Manchester United and all the rest await your votes. So do we !

Send your nominations on a postcard to: WORLD SOCCER AWARDS, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS

Man United's Mark Hughes

Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta

Champion's Cup-holders Red Star


Sampdoria coach Boskov

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Out of the SHADOW

CLUB FOCUS

MONACO

MONACO hope this is the season when they emerge from under the Marseille shadow.

Olympique Marseille have dominated the French league for the past three seasons, but cup-holders Monaco are confident that 1991-92 could be their year. And not without some justification. Monegasques point to the psychological edge gained from beating Marseille in the Cup Final and being the form team of the second half of last season.

Their form before Christmas was inconsistent, but after the winter break Monaco's excellent series of results had Marseille anxiously looking over their shoulders.

By early May, 22 points out of a possible 28 had pushed Monaco to within two points. But a surprise 4-0 defeat at struggling Nancy put paid to their title aspirations. As consolation Monaco turned to the Cup, and revenge on old adversaries Marseille in the Parc des Princes final. In 1989 Marseille had overcome Monaco 4-3 in a thriller.

This time, however, the roles were reversed, and Monaco deservedly triumphed thanks to a last-minute goal from substitute Gerald Passi.

"Marseille completed a comfortable league double over us last season and I felt that we were beginning to accept that they were our betters," says Monaco coach Arsene Wenger.

Little Monaco's bid to be really big

"If we had lost the '91 final we could have had a permanent inferiority complex. We have an exciting young side here whose form this year has shown their potential. This team can only get better, and we have every reason to be even more ambitious."

In keeping with Wenger's belief in his side, Monaco's watchword for the new season is continuity. The class of 1991-92 continue to be based on the central defensive pairing of young Emmanuel Petit and Senegal sweeper Roger Mendy, the midfield workrate of Marcel Dib, and the power of Liberia's Georges Weah in attack.

Monaco's players celebrate their Cup Final victory over Marseille.

Main picture, Monaco's magnificent Stade Louis II stadium. Inset, Prince Rainier with members of his family at a concert.

Summer transfer activity at the club was kept to a minimum. New arrivals were limited to ex-Nantes winger Christophe Robert and Danish international full-back John Sivebaek, signed from Saint-Etienne.

Yet on the eve of the new campaign the club received a massive blow. Influential midfielder and France vice-captain Franck Sauzee finally succumbed to Marseille's persistence and re-signed for the team he left 12 months previously.

Not that Monaco appeared to suffer from Sauzee's absence during their opening league match at Montpellier. Two goals from Passi, one by Youri Djorkaeff and a Weah penalty gave them a 4-1 away win and a lift in morale. More good times seemed to be on the way.

The Association Sportive de Monaco, founded in 1924, turned professional in 1948 and gained promotion to the First Division six years later. By the beginning of the 1960s coach Lucien Leduc had forged a team of considerable style, starring inside-forward Yvon Douis, winger Lucient Cossou and a left-half or winger by the name of Michel Hidalgo — subsequently to become a highly-successful manager of France.

Substitute Gerald Passi (number 12) leaves Olmeta stranded as he scores the winning goal in the 1991 French Cup Final victory against Marseille.

In 1960 they beat Saint-Etienne 4-2 after extra time to claim their first trophy, the French Cup, and more silverware was to follow. The club went on to win the championship in the next year, and in 1963 a replayed Cup Final victory over Lyon meant a league-and-cup double. But unfortunately for Monaco the glory days were to be short-lived, and decline set in.

During the 1970s they reached — and lost — the 1974 Cup final to Saint-Etienne, but in 1972 and 1976 the Monegasques suffered relegation. On each occasion they bounced back at the first attempt and in 1978 amazingly proceeded to become only the third French team — after Bordeaux in 1950 and Saint-Etienne in 1964 — to win Second and First division titles in consecutive years.

Since that 1978 epoch of prolific Argentine striker Delio Onnis, playmaker Jean Petit and winger Christian Dalger, Monaco's winning streak has continued.

Two years later Second Division Orleans were defeated in another Cup triumph, and in 1982 the League crown was again clinched.

A winner from schemer Bernard Genghini gave them the 1985 Cup, and a side featuring England's Glenn Hoddle and Mark Hateley and star French international full-back Manuel Amoros took the championship once more in 1988.

Yet despite the club's achievements, the Monte Carlo public have rarely proved to be enthusiastic. For the past decade gates have hovered around the 4,000 mark — last season's average attendance was 4,313 — and innocent observers ask how such meagre crowds can sustain a First Division club.

The simple answer is that they do not. Monaco owe financial well-being and superb facilities of the Stade Lous II to the patronage of the Monarch, Prince Rainier, and his family. Not that the club are royal playthings.

Rainier and his son Prince Albert are extremely keen soccer fans and even Princesses Caroline and Stephanie are to be seen at home matches.

But football clubs are not merely built on money, and since their successes of the 1960s, Monaco have proudly cultivated their own brand of attacking and technical soccer.

"It's nice to hear people say that Monaco have been playing the most attractive football in France for the past 30 years,"says former club stalwart Christian Dalger.

"This has much to do with the influence South American players and coaches have had on the team's style.

"Monaco have recruited many Argentines such as manager Ruben Bravo and players like Omar Pastoriza, Delio Onnis and Ramon Diaz. Their approach to the game is different to that in Europe.

"They emphasise technique rather than power, and that has rubbed off."

But while Monaco have won five championships and five cups at home, European success generally has eluded them. Indeed, up to the arrival of coach Arsene Wenger in 1987, only on two occasions out of 10 were they able to get through the first round.

Those exceptions were in 1963, when AEK Athens were beaten 8-3 on aggregate in the Champions' Cup, and in 1979, when eliminating Shakhtyor Donetsk from the UEFA Cup.

Following opening-round defeats by the likes of Eintracht Frankfurt, Dundee United and CSKA Sofia, critics claimed that Monaco's "pretty" football lacked the steel required by European competition.

Christian Dalger agrees. "In my time we did not have any discipline," he says. "We were not prepared mentally or tactically for Europe."

Today, Monaco are no longer the timid side who regularly fell at the first continental hurdle. Wenger is the man responsible for the change.

Monaco president Jean-Luis Campora says: "While retaining the quality of our approach play, Arsene has brought more rigour and fighting spirit to the team and our European performances have benefitted."

Certainly Wenger has a European record superior to any of his predecessors. For his first taste of a Champions' Cup campaign Valur of Reykjavik and Club Brugge — the Belgians thrashed 6-2 on aggregate — were eliminated before the Turks of Galatasaray upset Monaco, and the form book, in the semi-final.

In the following season the club knocked out Belenenses, Dynamo Berlin and Real Valladolid on their way to the Cup-winners' Cup's last four, but eventual winners Sampdoria proved too strong.

"There are still too many periods in our European matches when we lose concentration," said Wenger after Monaco had lost home and away to Torpedo Moscow in the third round of last season's UEFA Cup.

"It's most worrying. That was the case when we lost to Galatasaray in 1989, against Sampdoria and again tonight, when the Russians caught us asleep.

"We will have to cut out such mistakes in the future."

General manager Henri Biancheri, a former Monegasque star, says: "Some claim that the luxurious setting of Monaco makes the players lazy. But if that's true, how have we managed to win so many trophies?"

NICK BIDWELL WS

MONACO

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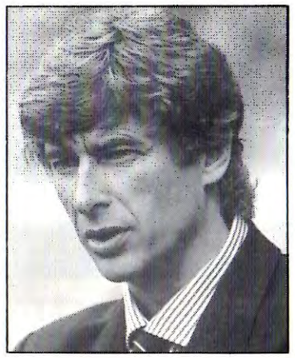
Chairman/President: Jean-Loius Campora.
Coach: Arsene Wenger.
Honours: 5 French Championships (1961, 1963, 1978, 1982, 1988). 5 French Cups (1960, 1963, 1980, 1985, 1991).

THE MANAGER



Arsene WENGER. Aged 41 (born October 10 1949).
Wenger was appointed Monaco coach in the summer of 1987 to replace veteran Romanian Stefan Kovacs, and in his first season guided the club to the championship. Under his leadership Monaco have added a victory in last season's Cup Final and reached the last eight of the Champions' Cup in 1989 and the semi-finals of the Cup-winners' Cup a year later. He is regarded as one of France's most astute tacticians and during his four years in the principality, he has succeeded in adding discipline to the side's traditional carefree approach. Wenger, a university graduate in economics, played as an amateur for Mutzig, Mulhouse, Vauban and Strasbourg, and in 1978 took charge of the Strasbourg youth section. He then spent periods as first-team coach at Cannes and Nancy before accepting the Monaco post.

THE PLAYERS

Jean-Luc ETTORI. Goalkeeper. Aged 36 (born July 29, 1955).
Club captain, Ettori joined Monaco in 1975 from France's INF Vichy soccer academy. Small, but agile and brave, he took over from Yves Chauveau early in the 1977-78 season and has remained in goal ever since. France's much-criticised keeper during the 1982 World Cup in Spain, and likely to retire at the end of the season to join Monaco's coaching staff.

Angelo HUGUES. Goalkeeper. Aged 25 (born September 3, 1966).
Second-string keeper signed from Dunkerque in 1986.

Patrick VALERY. Defender. Aged 22 (born July 3, 1969).
Solid right-back who is currently out with a long-term knee injury. An Under-21 international.

John SIVEBAEK. Defender. Aged 29 (born October 25, 1961). Attacking Danish full-back signed from Saint-Etienne during the summer. Previously with Vejle and Manchester United.

Senegalese defender Roger Mendy.

Emmanuel PETIT. Defender. Aged 20 (born September 22, 1970). Monaco believe he is destined for international greatness. Born in Dieppe, he graduated through the Monegasque youth ranks and was given his first-team debut against Sochaux in March 1989. A versatile youngster who can play anywhere in defence or midfield, now settled at stopper and forming a stylish defensive barrier with Roger Mendy. Made his full France debut versus Poland last year.

Roger MENDY. Defender. Aged 31 (born February 8, 1960).
Bought from Toulon two years ago to replace Bordeaux-bound Patrick Battiston at sweeper. Senegalese international who loves to move forward with the ball and has developed into one of Monaco's most consistent performers. Started his career at the Jeanne d'Arc club in Dakar.

Luc SONOR. Defender. Aged 28 (born September 15, 1962). From Guadeloupe, a full-back or stopper who came to prominence in 1984 when he gained a Cup winners' medal with Metz — at the expense of Monaco. Made his France debut at home to Norway in 1987 and has nine caps, but is not in Michel Platini's current plans. Joined Monaco in 1986 and recently signed a five-year contract extension.

Claude PUEL. Defender. Aged 30 (born September 2, 1961).
A versatile and valuable squad member who has been at the club since 1976. A former French Under-21 and Olympic team full-back, equally adept in midfield.

Patrick BLONDEAU. Defender. Aged 23 (born January 27, 1968).
A promising young full-back who joined Monaco from Martiques in 1989.

Marcel DIB. Midfielder. Aged 31 (born August 10, 1960).
All-action midfield workhorse with more than his fair share of skill. A great favourite at the Stade Louis II. Born in Marseille, and made his name at Toulon, and signed for Monaco in the summer of 1985. A full international on six occasions.

Gerald PASSI. Midfielder. Aged 27 (born January 21, 1964).
The hero of last season's Cup Final when he left the bench to score the winner against Marseille. Began at Montpellier and moved to Toulouse in 1985, earning high praise as a goalscoring playmaker. In October 1986 he scored a memorable hat-trick in Toulouse's 3-1 UEFA Cup win over Moscow Spartak, and in the following April made his debut for France, against Iceland. His international career has been limited to nine appearances by injury problems and loss of form. Joined Monaco in 1990.

Youri DJORKAEFF. Midfielder. Aged 23 (born March 9, 1968).
Highly-rated creative midfielder, signed from Strasbourg last autumn. Started at Grenoble before transferring to Strasbourg for a £500,000 fee in 1989. In the 1960s and early 1970s his father Jean was an excellent full-back for Lyon and Marseille who played 48 times for France.

Christophe ROBERT. Attacker. Aged 27 (born March 3, 1964).
Transferred to Monaco from Nantes in the recent close season. Has represented France at schoolboy, youth and Under-21 level. A tricky left-winger, top scorer for Nantes last season with nine goals.

Georges WEAH. Attacker. Aged 25 (born January 1, 1966).
Monaco's leading scorer last year with 10 goals. A Liberian with the potential to become one of Africa's greatest products, showing a potent mixture of pace, power and technique. Weah's first club was Invincible XI in Libraville and from there he moved to Cameroon's Tonnerre Yaounde. In 1988 he was spotted and signed by Monaco and within a few months his displays were sufficiently impressive to keep out Mark Hateley.

Benjamin CLEMENT. Attacker. Aged 24 (born December 10, 1966).
A mobile and skilful striker on the first-team fringes. Joined Monaco from Red Star of Paris in 1989.

RUI Gil Soares BARROS. Attacker. Aged 25 (born November 24, 1965).
The smallest player in the French First Division at 5ft 1in. Compensates for his lack of inches with his speed off the mark and phenomenal workrate. A Portuguese international, but tends to be a wasteful finisher and coach Arsene Wenger has insisted that his goalscoring rate increases this year. Moved to Monaco in 1990 after spending two seasons at Juventus. First hit the headlines in the 1987-88 season when he helped Porto to the championship, Portuguese Cup, European Super Cup and World Club Championship.

Youssouf FOFANA. Attacker. Aged 25 (born July 26, 1966).
A winger of lightning pace from the Ivory Coast. Began at ASEC club in Abidjan. Spotted playing for his country at the 1984 African Nations Cup finals by then Cannes manager Jean-Marc Guillou and persuaded to emigrate to France. By the summer of 1985, financial problems at Cannes meant a transfer to Monaco, where he was eventually to capture French international Bruno Bellone's No 11 shirt.

Monaco believe Emmanuel Petit is set for an international career.

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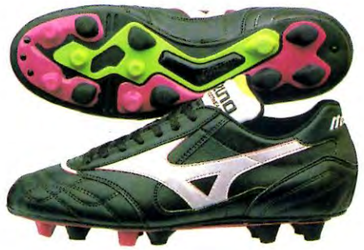

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Manchester United and Arsenal . . . two of the Big Five.

Big Five hold the guns

AS I write, the Football League remains in a state of flux, the future members of the so-called Premier League determined, or hell bent, according to your persuasion, on independence, a bunch of other clubs sounding the trumpet to battle.

Hearing Graham Kelly, chief executive of the Football Association, once secretary of the League, speak in public, you'd think that he was leading a noble crusade, a selfless stride into the future, resolving the problems, the internecine fighting, of years.

Listen to the League, and those clubs who deplore the breakaway, and you will hear, constantly reiterated, the word greed. A word that Graham Taylor was bold enough to utter, when giving his opinions on the forthcoming Premier League.

Kelly, speaking at a lunch, was asked an embarrassing question about Taylor's structures, and replied with characteristic blandness. All, one gathered, would be well. There would imminently be discussions with the England manager.

Taylor and I have had our ups and downs in the past and will no doubt have them in the future, when he feels I am not paying him sufficient "respect," but in this instance at least, I applaud him.

By contrast Howard Wilkinson, who is nobody's fool, seems to agree with Kelly — and David Dein of Arsenal — that the Premier will be a panacea, a source of hope, wealth and joy.

But another estimable manager, Steve Coppell of Crystal Palace, has spoken bitterly of the idea, saying that the bigger clubs have virtually held guns to the heads of the lesser ones, forcing them into the Premier. The Big Five seen as enforcers.

How big, it is legitimate to ask, are the Big Five? Arsenal, Manchester United, Liverpool, yes. All strongly supported, all generating already large incomes from gate receipts, sponsorship, television, even if Arsenal and Liverpool still have huge sums to spend on the restructuring of their grounds.

Manchester United, as soon as success is sniffed — let alone achieved, as it so triumphantly and unexpectedly was in Rotterdam — still pull crowds which no other club can aspire to.

Rescue

The gates were shut a full hour before kick-off in their opening home match of the new season, against Notts County, whom you wouldn't, with all deference, expect to draw steam out of a kettle!

But Tottenham? They were very lucky indeed not to crash into bankruptcy, after years of bizarre mismanagement. Alan Sugar, enlisted by the inextinguishable Terry Venables, came to their rescue just in time, but it was a damned close run thing.

Everton? Traditionally and historically, a club of renown, one who excelled in the mid-1980s, splendidly winning the Cup-winners' Cup, and cruelly cheated out of Champions' Cup participation the following season, as champions, because the fans of their eternal rivals, Liverpool, had run riot at Heysel.

Yet Everton since then have hardly been a force, even if their financial position has remained buoyant.

In terms of playing merits, we are living, by and large, through an arid period, everywhere.

Last season's championship, deservedly won by Arsenal, was by and large a tedious affair, with not an outstanding team in sight; even if you could say the same about Spain, Italy and West Germany, as well. Super Leagues call for super clubs; and where are they?

COACHING

IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE COACH

GRAHAM KELLY deplores the fact that young players in this country should be under the tutelage of coaches not recognised by any central body.

Wow! I should have thought that, given the perverse direction the FA coaching scheme has taken over the years, this was the best thing that could ever happen to them.

Kelly's words reflect that very orthodoxy which has been the curse of the coaching scheme ever since Walter Winterbottom's more benign days.

All credit to my friend and colleague Paul Gardner who, casting a cold eye on the FA Blueprint, and not least on its expressed desire to set up its centres of so-called excellence all over the globe, strongly advised the United States Federation to have nothing to do with it.

After all, Ferenc Puskas once publicly thanked his father...for never having coached him.

Remarked

I fully agree with George Graham, Arsenal's manager, who recently observed that it was wrong to condemn coaching, which had done so much for many players. Utterly right and true, but it depends on the coach.

Significantly Bryan Flynn, manager of Wrexham and former Welsh star midfielder, remarked, about the same time, that while he had attended the FA coaching course he had learned much more by going on a course for trainers, and one on management, organised by the players' union.

In my wilder nightmares, I sometimes visualise a Premier League, presided over by the Blueprint's author, and Lord High Director of Coaching, Good Old Charlie Hughes, in which anything less than a 40-yard pass, preferably diagonal, will be forbidden.

Coaching is as good as the coach, and not even the largest number of FA certificates and badges will make him any good if he hasn't the natural flair.

How many certificates has Bob Paisley? Or Brian Clough?

For years we heard, and were impressed by, the West German way of seeing that every one of their managers was qualified, had come through a course, had passed coaching examinations. Then they appointed a new national team manager, Franz Beckenbauer, who never attended a course of any kind. Whereupon he took them to one World Cup Final and won the next one.

France did the same. They appointed the wholly unqualified Michel Platini, who has revitalised the team, France will surely now reach the European Championship Finals, and give a decent account of themselves.

Reflects

Come to think of it, has Johan Cruyff, now the manager of Barcelona, still coveted by Holland, any certificates to brandish?

And would it matter if he had?

Ruud Krol, his colleague in those glorious Dutch Total Football teams of the 70s, hasn't, and could not get home to coach a club in consequence, though he'd been doing it quite happily abroad.

Football reflects its times, and our times are those in which you seem to need some kind of meaningless certificate for everything.

CERS

The coming Premier League is the enlarged descendant of the Super League which the Big Five, Dein and Everton's Philip Carter to the fore, tried to thrust upon us a few years ago, only for both to be, quite properly, thrown off the Football League's Management Committee.

And Kelly? he and the FA still seem to me, in a word, to have been used, and I still see a blatant, dangerous anomaly in the amalgamation of what should be separate powers.

Kelly has told us, piously, throughout the controversy that strife must vanish, unity be achieved. But at what price?

Can it really be pretended that the interests of football at large, which the FA are supposed to foster, coincide with those not just of the League clubs, but of the elite League clubs?

Again, I have to stress that the appropriate word is corporatism, as believed by Mussolini's Italy. A ride on a tiger, vipers nourished in the bosom, select what metaphor you please, but it all looks like bad news to me.

The odd thing being that, historically, the Football League were not even able to perceive their own best interests, while the FA did.

Retrospect

Go back to 1955, when the Champions' Cup was established, and Chelsea, top for the only time in history, had the chance to make further history by becoming the first English club to compete.

They didn't. The Football League, with its xenophobe secretary Alan Hardaker calling the shots, "advised" them against it. Too many fixtures, conflicting interests, and all that.

Unfortunately for Chelsea — how Ken Bates must gnash his teeth in retrospect — their chairman was the large, amiable, ineffectual Joe Mears, son of the club's founder and worse luck for them, chairman of the Football League.

Meekly and feebly, Mears gave way. Chelsea, to their shame, and to the shame of English football, stayed out of Europe. They may never get another chance to contest the Champions' Cup, even if, in the two lesser competitions, they would flourish in the future.

Graham Kelly . . . noble crusade.

The following year, Manchester United effectively told Hardaker to get lost.

Busby, a "European" before it was fashionable, wasn't going to stand any of that nonsense.

The bitter irony of it was that their participation cost United the horrific disaster of Munich, when their aircraft crashed in the snow, and so many fine young players died.

Was Hardaker sympathetic? It scarcely appeared so. The following year, UEFA most generously invited Manchester United to compete again, though they had not qualified. The League refused permission, having the impertinence to claim that UEFA were breaking their own rules.

The FA upheld United's appeal, then caved in when Hardaker insisted on a joint FA-FL Committee.

All of which is simply to show that the League, pursuing what they deem to be their own best interests, could sometimes (sometimes?) be curiously blind to what they truly were.

It is no implicit criticism to say that the interests of the League clubs and those of the game at large are not necessarily co-existent.

But with the FA thinking they have swallowed the big clubs, and the big clubs much more likely to swallow the FA, prospects are perturbing.

Bob Paisley . . . hugely successful with no coaching qualifications.

CHANGES at the back

Boskov . . . marvelled at Arsenal's 4-4-2 formation.

TACTICS, TACTICS. Just before their Italian season started, Internazionale, under the new management of the extraordinary, 50-year-old Corrado Orrico, learned that they might be playing the third-back game.

Wonder and incredulity ensued in Italy. This was the plan, they pointed out, which might have worked for the great Torino team of the 40s, but had had to be abandoned soon by everybody else, the national side very much included.

Italy were incredibly slow to discover the "WM" game, or "sistema", as they called it.

England had been playing it since 1925, when Herbert Chapman and Charlie Buchan of Arsenal introduced it to counter the new offside law.

Italy played England in 1933 and 1934 but didn't seem to twig until the 2-2 draw in Milan in 1939, when their former elegant centre-half, Fulvio Bernardini, explained it in the Corriere Dello Sport.

It caught on for a time, then "catenaccio" blew it away, followed by the introduction of 4-2-4 by Brazil in the 1958 World Cup, whereat the third-back game disappeared in Britain, too.

Now Orrico has tried it for a few friendly games, then decided it wouldn't work.

He'd have four defenders in line, instead (not "catenaccio", please notice.)

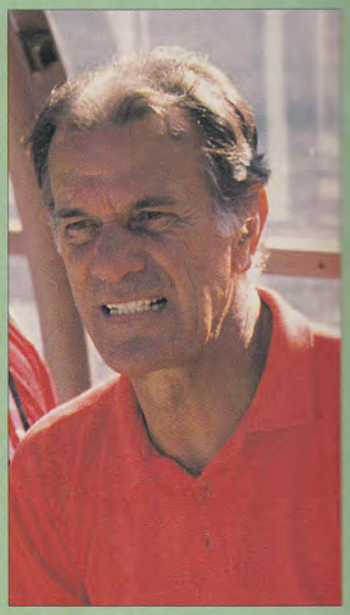
Meanwhile, at Highbury, Sampdoria's Vujadin Boskov was marvelling that Arsenal should play 4-4-2, when nobody else in Europe did. Nobody? Where's he been? What about Milan, Boskov? Didn't you know "catenaccio" is obsolescent even in Italy, now?

Tactics, tactics.

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW BY BRIAN HOMEWOOD

Tele Santana

WHY BRAZIL ARE OUT OF CONTROL



Action from the Copa America final round match between Brazil and Colombia, the heavy pitch favoured the Brazilians.

PUT the thinking caps on, get the brains ticking over and try to guess who said: "I have players here in the first team who have difficulty in controlling or passing a ball."

If the answer was the manager of an English Fourth Division side, the trainer of the Vanuatu national team or even Graham Taylor, you probably would not be surprised.

But the correct reply might leave you slightly taken aback.

It was Tele Santana, manager of Brazilian champions Sao Paulo.

As Santana claims, and as the Copa America demonstrated all too painfully, Brazilian players are losing their magic. We all know, of course, that the Brazilian game has been in a bad way for some time — the country's best (and some of their mediocre) players have fled to Europe, the domestic game is bankrupt and the local directors have as much idea about organising football as the average polar bear.

But now it is becoming clear that the technique and skill which always have made Brazil's players the envy of the rest of the world are being lost as well.

The supply of "craques", as the star players are called here, has dried up.

And more worrying still, the country's future professionals are being put through training programmes which are bearing more and more resemblance to the FA's school of excellence. Plenty on the physical/commitment side, very little on the technique side.

'We have stopped doing what the Brazilian knows how to do, which is play football'

Santana, the man who put together the magnificent 1982 World Cup team and the impressive, if not so magnificent, 1986 side, says: "We're not worried about the 'jogo bonito' any more. We're more interested in committing fouls and in physical preparation. We are forgetting about the skill side.

"The people who work with junior and youth teams have a responsibility to their clubs to win — it's win, win, win. This means that when players get to the senior level, they are full of defects. They have learned plenty about physical condition, combat and running but they have forgotten about the technical side.

"We have stopped doing what the Brazilian knows how to do, which is play football. There is more interest in combat and committing fouls. The strength of our game is our technique and we're not making the most of this any more. We've fallen away and any opponent today can cause trouble for Brazil — Ecuador and Colombia for example."

The recent Copa America was the perfect example of what Santana is saying. Brazil finished second but that was not the significant point. For more relevant than where Brazil finished was the way they played.

Their performance was based entirely on marking, determination, fighting spirit, committing fouls and falling down in the penalty area (come on down Joao Paulo!).

Brazil beat Bolivia 2-1, but it was the Bolivians who had the creative ideas and the man of the match in Etcheverry, their number ten. Against Ecuador, it was a similar story — Brazil won 3-1 but the unsung Ecuadoreans more than matched them for skill and imagination.

The final round matches were played on a quagmire of a pitch which favoured the less talented team — and when Brazil played Colombia, it was clearly the Brazilians who had benefitted, winning 2-0 as the Colombians' close-passing game could not be made to work. When they had met in the first round on a dry pitch, Colombia had won 2-0.

"It looked as though Brazil had been hoping for a wet pitch so the Colombians could not exploit their ball control, because technically they have evolved and they are better than us at the moment," Santana says. If Colombia continue to improve and can add some firepower to their attack, samba soccer could soon become salsa soccer.

Zico . . . learned his skills in the "peladas" where winning was not of great importance.

Santana adds: "In the Copa America, Brazil showed a lot of fighting spirit and enthusiasm. But this is not enough in football. It's all right to worry about getting the ball back when the opposition has it but when you have the ball, you have to know what to do with it — and we don't."

Cesar Menotti, now manager of the Mexico team, said recently: "The Copa America showed that the traditional powers or the region are going back to their roots — except Brazil."

Falcao said after the Copa America that "ugly football" was the way forward for the national team. "There's no point in expecting from any group that forms the Brazil team the classical and skilful football which we produced before. The times today are of fighting, long kicks upfield, biting tackles and sliding tackles. In brief, a type of football which is ugly but which wins games."

Determined

The fact that Falcao is no longer in charge does not really matter. Brazil is simply not producing players that it used to — and even when it does, they have the creative stuffing knocked out of them. At all levels, the talk is of determination, marking and running. If Zico and Socrates were playing in Brazil today, they would be expected to mark opponents.

Watch Brazilian soccer today and you will see precious few moments of the genius which was once common.

Neto's free kicks, some inspirational moments from Sao Paulo captain Rai and the dribbling skills of Santos winger Almir occasionally brighten things up.

But for the most part, matches are as exciting as watching TV Globo's nightly three hours of soap operas.

Players who dare to dribble past an opponent are ruthlessly chopped down and the offenders will still be surprised if they received a yellow card; 60 foul matches are common. All this drives Santana to despair. "In the last championship, there were three or four teams at the most who played good football," he says.

"It is a difficult situation to reverse because in Brazil you work principally for the results, nobody worries about putting on a good display. You have to win. The clubs demand this and if the manager does not win, he gets the sack. So teams just worry about defending. At the moment, it seems we are too afraid to play. This is wrong. Brazilian football has to have audacity. We have to be daring.

"The fans don't go to watch because they don't want to see this. Everybody says: 'Ah, yes, Sao Paulo play good football, the sort of football that Santana likes,' but it's not just me who likes it. It's the sort of football everyone likes."

According to Fernando Calazans, a prominent newspaper columnist, "samba soccer" began to die following the World Cup defeat against Italy in 1982.

"Since then, we have established the idea — I don't know why — that Brazil lost the cup because we were worried about playing nice football and not about winning," he says.

"Ever since then we have been more worried about marking and running. Even in 1986. Tele (Santana) was influenced. But the real change came with Lazaroni.

"Since 1982, there has been an idea that Brazilian football was wrong, that everything that happened before 1982 had to be rubbed out and that we should start all over again. But this is a big mistake. Our strength is creativity and improvisation but this is being spoilt."

His words were borne out in the friendly against Wales last month, when an improving home nation deserved a much bigger margin against a Brazil side who rarely put together a creative move.

Disorganised

As if this is not enough, Brazil now has another serious problem — there is nowhere for children to play football.

Pele, Garrincha, Rivelino and Zico, to name but a few, all learned their skills in "peladas", informal matches played on improvised dirt pitches. There was no worry about winning, no coaches to inhibit them. It was the ideal way for their natural skills to develop.

But in the last 10 to 15 years, Brazil's cities have ballooned in the most disorganised fashion and the dirt pitches have been built on.

In the suburbs of Rio such as Penha and Campo Grande, areas which once hosted 20 or 30 pitches are now occupied by blocks of flats.

The only place for children to play football in most parts of Brazil are the "escolinhas", coaching schools often run by professional clubs. And in these escolinhas, the emphasis is on physical preparation, marking etc etc. Natural talent is not being allowed to flourish as before.

"Children go to escolinhas at a very young age and their ability is inhibited," Calazans says.

Discovered

Meanwhile, the old problem of players going abroad is getting worse and worse. Among the leading players who have just gone are Careca III (from Palmeiras to Atalanta), Mazinho II (Bragantino to Bayern Munich) and Ricardo "Dick Dastardly" Rocha (Sao Paulo to Real Madrid). Mauro Silva, Bragantino's bulky midfielder, was also rumoured to be heading to Italy.

The difference nowadays is that it is not just the best players who are leaving. The Europeans are taking anyone and everyone, often buying the players up when they are young at bargain basement prices and then re-selling them for astronomical fees later on.

Sao Paulo captain Rai, who himself has pretensions of moving abroad, says: "Previously, players only went to Europe after establishing themselves in Brazil. But the European clubs have discovered it is cheaper to buy them when they are young.

"There is no comparison between the wages. But is not just money.

It is also the chance to play in a well-organised championship with top players from other countries."

The most striking example was the recent sale of Elber, the Brazilian forward who shone at the recent World Youth Cup in Portugal. He has already been snapped up by AC Milan....at the age of 18.

The question no longer seems to be whether Brazil should play with their traditional style. It is more whether they can.

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MARK GLEESON LOOKS AT THE

SHOUBIER

He's out to earn a move

TIME is running out for Ahmed Shoubier, now approaching 30. The Egyptian goalkeeper has one more ambition to fulfil — signing for a top European club.

Success in almost all of Africa's national and club competitions, as well as an appearance at the World Cup finals, have marked a brilliant career in the continent, but Shoubier still feels a void.

"I desperately want to play in Europe, he says. "I've been to the World Cup finals and I've won a lot of medals in Africa, but more than anything I want to sign for a top side."

Last year, Shoubier went close when Everton took the player to Goodison after the World Cup finals, but then had to let him go when the British Home Office refused to issue a work permit.

Confident

He feels he was a victim of bureaucratic racism, but he has not given up hope, and is looking forward to a confident showing at the African Nations Cup finals in Senegal in January.

"Senegal is my last chance. I don't think I'll have another after this," he says.

The finals will be a major shop window for African players seeking a professional contract. Clubs and agents are expected in droves, and there will be TV coverge in Europe. So what has Shoubier to offer a club in Europe?

"I have more experience now and more confidence after the World Cup finals in Italy. Goalkeepers have a longer career than outfield players, so I'm fast approaching my peak. I learnt a lot in Italy."

Shoubier rates Ireland's Tony Cascarino as the most difficult player he has competed against. "And Marco van Basten, because you always have to be on your guard against him. He can score at any moment."

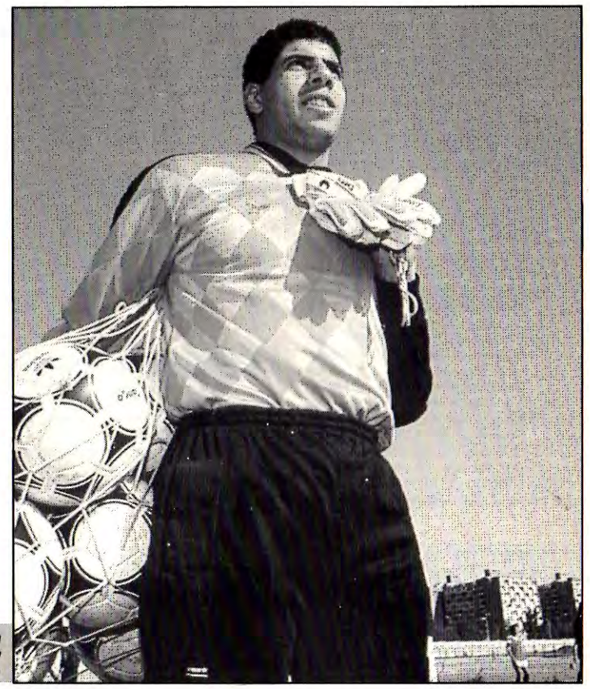
Playing against forwards of that calibre gave Shoubier insight into the sharper edge still lacking from the African game.

Careers

But he probably is exposed to more pressure than most. His club, Al Ahly, are the most popular in the Arab-speaking world, and a walkabout in his home town of Cairo is a nightmare experience for him.

Only in the last two years have Egyptian players left their country to pursue professional careers abroad. Magdi Abdel Ghani led the way with a move to Beira Mar in Portugal and was quickly followed by World Cup stars Hossam and Ibrahim Hassan and Hani Ramzy.

Shoubier is desperate to swell those ranks. A solid performance in Senegal might provide him with the ticket.



Shoubier . . . still wants to play in Europe even though a move to Everton collapsed at the last minute.

CAREERS OF TWO AFRICAN STARS

BWALYA

He's out to win respect

ZAMBIA'S credible third-place finish at the African Nations Cup finals in Algeria last year was a shock to their star performer, Kalusha Bwalya, the PSV Eindhoven winger.

He had to watch as his amateur teammates easily did without him in victories over Cameroon and Kenya, and went on to a play-off win over Senegal to reach third spot.

Injury had ruled out Bwalya, and with Charles Musonda held back by Anderlecht through club commitments, it was a mainly home-based outfit.

For the first time, Zambia proved there was more to their success than Bwalya's dribbling skills and fine touches, and Musonda's midfield genius.

There would be no more easy rides again into the national team for the two European-based professionals.

Since the mid-80s, Bwalya has been the glamour boy of Zambian football, securing a professional contract in Belgium with Cercle Brugge in 1985, after heading the list of scorers at home with Mufulira Wanderers.

He helped to give African football one of its finest days, at the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul.

That was when Zambia put four goals past an Italian side including Tacconi, De Agostini, Ferrara, Carnevale and Virdis. Bwalya scored three and was immediately on the Italian shopping list, his face peering out from the sports pages and his goals being replayed over and over again on Italian TV.

Calling

But the big move did not materialise until PSV Eindhoven came calling at the start of the 1989-90 season and took him to Holland as forward cover for the likes of Wim Kieft, Fleming Poulsen and the enigmatic Brazilian, Romario.

Bwalya's participation was limited then, but last season he saw more action as Bobby Robson took PSV to the title on the final day of the season.

His top priority now is to find the scoring form for PSV he showed at Cercle Brugge and on the international stage, and help the club retain their title and put together a better run in Europe than the debacle against Montpellier in last season's UEFA Cup.

The menu also includes January's African Nations Cup in Senegal, where a restored Bwalya will again be the main attraction for the Zambian team, albeit this time in the knowledge that a run of poor form could easily cost him his place.

He scored vital goals for his country to help ensure qualification and was captain when Zambia sneaked a 1-0 win over Angola in their final group match to make sure of the tickets to Dakar.

The Zambians have never won the tournament, despite forcing Zaire into a replay in the final in 1974. Bwalya is quietly confident this time might signal a change in fortune for his embattled country, in the throes of political and economic turmoil.

Competing

"Zambia is the nearly man of African soccer," he says. "Both our national team and club sides have done really well in continental tournaments, but we just have not been able to lift ourselves over that final hurdle.

"Now we have the quality players, and the experience."

But Bwalya, African Footballer of the Year in 1989, realises that there will be considerable opposition. "Obviously Ghana, with Abedi Pele and Nii Lamptey, will be the favourites, but then countries like Algeria and Egypt are also very strong.

"And you can't forget Cameroon after their fine performance at the World Cup finals in Italy."

For many of the players competing in Senegal, the African Nations Cup provides a launching pad for a professional career in Europe or the oil-rich Gulf states.

For Bwalya, that priority no longer exists — but there is another motivation: respect.

"I don't need to show off for European agents or clubs. I'm playing there for my country and for my name. I'm well-known in Africa so I'm there to earn respect. And to win!"

Bwalya . . . celebrates his hat-trick against Italy in the 1988 Games in Seoul.

ARE THESE COACHES WORTH THE COST?

THE Zimbabwe Football Association (ZIFA) recently sacked coach Armando Ferreira after the national team were knocked out of the African Nations Cup.

The move came amid national outrage over a 2-2 draw with Congo. That ended Zimbabwe's dream of reaching the finals foâr the first time since independence 11 years ago, because Congo had won the home tie 2-0.

The country's biggest daily newspaper, The Herald, described the defeat as "hurtful and humiliating," and a "national shame".

Major African tournaments, notably the Nations Cup, focus on the growing band of foreign coaches who ply their trade on the continent where rewards are high but failure is not tolerated.

A number of national teams in the continent, including those who are going to feature in the 1992 Cup finals in Senegal, have coaches or managers from either Europe or Latin America.

Examples include Kenya, who have qualified for the third time in a row.

Harambee Stars, the national team, are coached by Gerry Saurer, an Austrian better known as previous general manager of a leading Nairobi hotel.

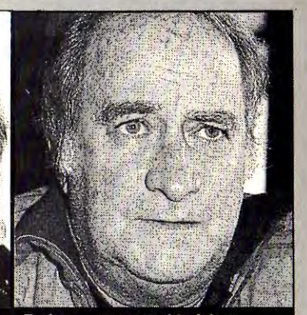
Frenchman Philippe Redon handles World Cup stars Cameroon. He took over from Soviet coach Valerie Nepomniachi, mastermind of the Indomitable Lions' 1990 World Cup campaign.

Coached

Ghana, proving a force again after six years in the doldrums, are now coached by a German, Burkhard Ziese, a bespectacled man in his forties, who took up the job last year.

Ghana, Nations champions a record four times, slipped from their lofty position during the 1980s, and failed to reach the finals of three consecutive tournaments, but have made it to Dakar for the 1991 finals.

Redon . . . Cameroon's new coach.



Faria . . . converted to Islam.

Congo, the Red Devils, are coached by yet another German, Manfred Honer, the disciplinarian who took Nigeria to the 1988 finals.

Opinion varies as to whether or not there is need for foreign coaches in Africa.

Abedi Pele of Ghana, who stars for Olympique Marseille, France's top team, believes Africa needs foreigners to instil the necessary mental approach.

Abedi Pele recently said in an interview: "Our local coaches cannot bring out inherent talent — they only know about getting to the ground. I have nothing against African coaches, but they have a lot to learn."

The Nigerian Minister for Sports, Mohammed Kure, has accused foreign coaches of not being interested in the nations that hire them.

"Their only loyalty is to their purses," he said.

According to Jose Mehdi Faria, former national coach of the Moroccan national team and a native of Brazil, "African football needs more foreign trainers. In five years African football can reach a very high level if it has money and a structure."

Converted

Coaching in Africa has it rewards, and setbacks.

If one is successful, he becomes the toast of the country. He is acclaimed a hero if his team triumphs.

But things can be entirely different if the reverse is the case.

Take the experience of Faria, who guided Morocco to the second round of the World Cup finals in Mexico in 1986.

During his spell in charge of the national team he converted from Roman Catholicism to Islam and adopted the name Mehdi.

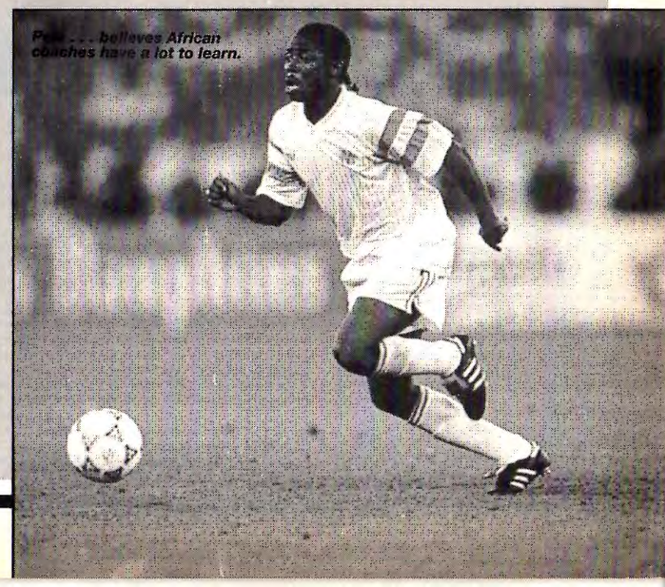
But that did not save him from dismissal as national coach in April 1988 after his squad failed to win the Nations' Cup on home ground, eliminated in a bruising semi-final by Cameroon.

Football fans expect quick results. Most coaches, of course, are aware of the speed with which heads roll after negative results.

More often than not, it is the coach's head that the football fraternity goes for.

But that has not stopped foreign coaches from taking up appointments in Africa.

G O NAUMAN WS



Pele . . . believes African coaches have a lot to learn.

Ghani . . . in action against the Irish at Italia '90.

International ANALYSIS

EGYPT

Signs of strain as rebuilding goes on

EGYPT entered the 1980's looking all set to dominate African soccer. They had long been the continental leaders, appearing in the 1934 World Cup finals, and playing a central part in the formation of the African Nations' Cup.

Indeed, they had won the first two editions of that competition.

Since then, however, they had not so much lost direction, but lost interest. Egypt, separated from the black nations by the Sahara desert, felt a closer affinity to the Middle East and Southern Europe than they did to Ghana or Nigeria.

Just as England had held a mistaken belief in their own invincibility into the 1950's, so the Egyptians considered themselves superior to whatever else went on in Africa.

Saves

By the start of the 1980's however, the country was becoming more African-orientated. The Nations' Cup was clearly becoming a worthwhile and prestigious event, and El Ahly and Zamalek were drawing vast crowds for their African club campaigns.

Egypt went to the 1980 Nations' Cup in Nigeria not only full of confidence, but perhaps more motivated than ever before. Several of their players, most noticeably Ikrami, Mokhtar and El Khatib, were veterans of the 1976 campaign, where Egypt finished fourth.

Many still consider Ikrami to be the best Egyptian goalkeeper of his generation. He may not have produced many wonderful saves, but he had a quiet assurance that calmed everybody around him.

Mokhtar was a typically gifted Egyptian forward with wonderful control. But for injuries, he might have played more of a part in the events of the next decade.

El Khatib, the one Egyptian to win the African Player of the Year award, was a legend. He was a prince of a player, wonderfully balanced and confident, and having that special aura about him that intimidates defenders.

Injuries, however, increasingly distracted from El Khatib's performance, and he seldom seemed to get through a Nations' Cup tournament without some problem.

Showed

In Nigeria the Egyptians played well in their opening games, but lost the last group match to the home team. This paired them in the semi-finals with an Algerian team who were to become one of the great African sides of the 80's.

Egypt went two goals ahead but, not for the last time, showed their ability to collapse under pressure and Algeria went on to equalise and then win the penalty shoot-out.

Indeed Egypt have a dismal record in penalty deciders, although they won the one which mattered the most.

Egypt missed the 1982 Nations' Cup — Libya and Egypt not being on good political terms at the time — but they went to the Ivory Coast as firm favourites in '84.

El Batal, who was to feature as the prominent goalkeeper of the 1980s, was now sharing the position with Ikrami.

Shehata, perhaps the most under-rated of the Egyptian players, was now in the side at full-back, and Yassine, a versatile defender was another regular.

Ibrahim Youseef, who had played so well for Zamalek in the African Cup, was centre-half. He was a wonderfully graceful player, and perhaps only French bias in the poll prevented him from being crowned African Player of the Year in 1985.

Up front the side was less settled, with El Khatib being injured after the first game. Soliman, who played in every match, was one of the few internationals not to be based in Cairo.

Fortunately Egypt had found an attacking midfield player who could go forward and score: Taher Abou Zeid.

Hossam and Ibrahim Hassan, now well established in the national side.

The side also included, for the first time in a major tournament, Abdel Ghani, who added a bite that had perhaps been lacking.

The team opened impressively, beating Cameroon thanks to a Abou Zeid goal. They then beat the Ivory Coast and, with their semi-final place confirmed, dropped a point to Togo.

In the semi-final, against Nigeria, they made an excellent start, Soliman and Zeid putting them two goals ahead before half-time. Then, suddenly, a defence that had looked so solid and organised fell apart.

First Keshi and then Bala scored, the match went to penalties, and the disheartened Egyptians were finally worn down in a shoot-out that went to sudden death.

That defeat hurt. Never before had Egypt entered a tournament with such expectation.

In 1985 and '86 things were to get steadily worse. Defeat by Morocco cost them a place in the World Cup, and a friendly against England — which should have been a major event — ended with the Egyptians being humbled.

As a result the country faced the approaching Nations' Cup with growing pessimism. Manager Mike Smith tried to keep morale up, but after a 1-0 defeat against Senegal in the opening game another disaster seemed inevitable.

Wright scores for England against a nervous Egyptian side at Italia '90.

This, however, was to prove Egypt's darkest moment, and from there they started to claw their way back. Two late goals gave them victory over Ivory Coast, and then they quickly scored the two goals they needed against Mozambique to take the group.

Morocco were the semi-final opponents and a Abou Zeid goal gave them revenge for the World Cup defeat.

The rest is history. The final, one of the greatest occasions in the Nations' Cup, ended without a goal and for once Egypt won a penalty shoot-out.

El Batal had the goalkeeper's spot to himself and generally played well. The old guard of Shehata, Sedki and Yassine were at the core of the defence and Omar's arrival gave them stability.

Abdel Ghani and Zeid were the key men in midfield, and outside pressure caused manager Smith to bring back the veteran captain, Mohammed Mostafa, to stay out wide.

Up front El Khatib had fought his way back from serious injuries to play every game. Alongside him, Zamalek striker, Abdel Hamid had little of his partner's grace and style, but lacked nothing in bravery, dedication or muscle.

The following year the side went on to win the African Games title, quite a feat in a hostile Kenyan environment.

El Khatib had retired from international soccer, and after some experimenting the young Hossam Hassan, who had been grabbing goals for El Ahly, paired with Pamadan.

Abdel Hamid started to operate more in midfield, with Ayman and Gharib, well noted for their club performances, getting runs in the team.

The Egyptians started with virtually the same defence, but a terrible mistake by El Batal against Malawi cost him his place, and Shoubeir came in.

Having won two major tournaments in a row it was almost too much to expect the side to retain their Nations' Cup title in 1988. Indeed they never really recovered from an opening defeat to Cameroon, and went somewhat tamely out of the tournament.

Smith, who had never endeared himself to fans or management, was promptly sacked. He had performed a remarkable feat in keeping such a volatile position for so long.

Despite the early defeat, the 1988 tournament had seen the start of rebuilding towards the next World Cup.

Abdel Hamid was now ready to take on much more of the captain's role. Hossam Hassan secured his place, and his brother Ibrahim came in for the first time. Shortly afterwards Abdel Rasoul won a place in the front line.

With this squad Egypt were able to put together their most impressive World Cup campaign. As the tension grew, however, we saw more and more of the bad side of Egyptian football.

After the decisive game with Algeria there were terrible scenes, including a fight in the changing room in which an Egyptian doctor was supposedly injured. For a short time Algerian Belloumi was under arrest, and the whole affair did little for African football.

Before Italy there was another Nations' Cup tournament, and Egypt had more to lose than to gain from attending, particularly as Algeria was now a hostile environment.

In a poor display of sporting politics the Egyptians first announced they would not attend, then sent a "B" team, who arrived a day late.

The only point of note about this squad was the presence of El Batal. He no longer seriously featured in World Cup plans, but added three more appearances to his Nations' Cup record.

So to Italy, and an exciting draw against Holland that gave every reason for optimism. Then came the half-hearted and nervous displays against England and the Republic of Ireland. Still, Egypt had got to the World Cup, and several players had performed well.

Hani Ramzy, who had worked his way through the youth system, was perhaps the outstanding breakthrough. The Hassan brothers, particularly Ibrahim at full-back, were excellent.

There were some disappointments, most noticeably the injury and loss of form that limited Taher Abou Zeid to one short appearance as substitute.

Thanks to the World Cup, several Egyptian players were offered contracts in Europe.

Abdel Ghani already had been playing in Portugal, and now Ramzy went to Switzerland, Hossam Hassan to Greece.

We have yet to see how this affects Egyptian soccer. Certainly in the middle of the decade Egypt were one of the few African countries able to field a home-based side. Now they must try to get their best players back for the big games.

There is now likely to be increasing strain between overseas and home-based stars. If that happens, it will be difficult to be optimistic about Egypt's immediate future.

Another question is whether the loss of the biggest stars will enable some of the other sides to break down the El Ahly-Zamalek League stranglehold.

Certainly the next couple of seasons are likely to prove interesting for Egyptian soccer.

Magdi the major star

HE is probably the most underestimated player in Africa. He has never won the African Player of the Year title, or even been in really close contention.

He doesn't attract the same hero worship that stars such as Milla, Abou Zeld or Abedi Pele enjoy.

Yet for over a decade now he has been one of the most successful and influential players in Africa. With El Ahly he won every club honour Africa had to offer, and he is close to making 100 appearances for Egypt.

Last summer he crowned his career with an appearance in the World Cup finals.

He is Magdi Abdel Ghani, the tall, powerful, midfield player with the crunching tackle.

Magdi always will be remembered as the hard man of the team, the one who would never flinch a tackle, and his strength and ability to win the ball is at the heart of his game.

I remember talking with Mike Smith when he was manager of Egypt, and he was overwhelming in his praise for his midfield dynamo. Smith compared him with Welsh international Terry Yorath, and certainly the two are in the same mould. Neither was the world's most gifted player, but neither would ever let you down.

Skilful

"Magdi is a player you could go into battle alongside," said Smith.

Perhaps because of this, people often overlooked just how skilful Magdi can be, he loves to shield the ball from an opponent, hold him off, and wait for a little space to open up.

He is also a great first-time striker of the ball. He has a habit of hovering outside the penalty area at corners, hoping to volley any clearances straight back at goal.

Magdi scored several vital goals for El Ahly in this way, and went close to one in the 1986 Nations' Cup final.

Magdi first made his name with El Ahly, and by the 1984 Nations' Cup he was a regular member of the national team, and desperately unlucky not to get the chance to play in the final.

His one goal came in the third-place play-off, from a penalty. There is something very deliberate and determined about the man in these situations.

Not that Ghani is without fault. In the early days his temper was notorious. In the worse incident he ran wild at the end of a friendly with Mexico, striking everybody in sight.

According to reports he had been heavily provoked by an off-the-ball incident, but that is not an excuse for such behaviour, and in many countries he would never have played for the national team again.

Egypt of course is Egypt, and these delightful, generous and passionate people are perhaps a little more understanding of wayward sons. They also know which side their bread is buttered, and nobody wanted to lose Magdi with the nations' Cup approaching.

Scoring

Apologies were made, the ban reduced, and he was soon back in the side. Perhaps he learnt something from the incident, because he has been in relatively little trouble since then.

He finished the 1986 season by scoring, again from a penalty, as El Ahly won the Cup-winners' Cup for a record third time. In a rain-swept Sogara Stadium, with El Ahly's seemingly impregnable lead starting to be eaten away, Ghani came into his own.

There he was marshalling the team, putting in the decisive tackle, doing the simple and safe thing quickly, never losing faith that they could hold out.

In 1987 Magdi played for Egypt in the African Games, a multi-sport event based on the Olympics. Again he was a key figure and that year he finished fourth in the African Player of Year poll, voted ahead of Egyptian rival Abou Zeid.

Soon afterwards he became the first senior Egyptian player to leave home, and his choice of clubs, Beira-Mar of Portugal, appeared strange. There were no European campaigns or honours here, just an honest middle-of-the-table team who might appreciate his talents.

Indeed his motivation for going probably had little to do with money, and more to do with the fact that Magdi is an intelligent man who was keen to experience another part of the world.

The next few years were times of change for Egypt, and Magdi was absent when they failed to retain their Nations' Cup title in Morocco. By 1989, however, things were going better.

The side had a new manager, former El Ahly player El Gohary, and there were some impressive young stars coming through. Magdi, more secure in Europe now, was available for the key matches, and he was there that historic night when Egypt beat Algeria to secure a place in Italy.

A traumatic, one-goal affair, with every tackle counting and one mistake threatening disaster, was just the night for Magdi Abel Ghani, and World Soccer described him as the player of the match.

Search

Italy gave us a chance to see Ghani in action once again. He was perhaps less at the centre of things than during his El Ahly days. He did not hold the ball so much and was more likely to search for an early opening. All the old skill was still there, now just a little more refined and subtle.

Maybe at 30 he was pacing himself more. Perhaps a little of the old fire was missing. It doesn't really matter. The point was that Magdi Abdel Ghani will be able to tell his grandchildren that he played in the greatest tournament of all.

That is the least he deserves for so many fine, unselfish performances.

FIFA NEWS

Extracts from the official monthly publication of the Fédération Internationale de Football Association

HOW NEW RULES WORK FOR GOALKEEPERS

THE International Football Association Board (commonly known as the board), which is responsible for matters affecting the Laws, redefined the interpretation of Law XII (Fouls and Misconduct).

The National Associations were informed of the board's decisions regarding "last ditch" fouls and of a new decision concerning control of the ball by the goalkeeper. The wording is reproduced below. The board also discussed the question of thermopants. This type of undergarment will be permitted but only as long as the thermopants are the same colour as the shorts of the player's outfit and come to above the knee.

Law XII - Fouls and misconduct

Decision 15:
If, in the opinion of the referee, a player who is moving toward his opponents' goal with an obvious opportunity to score a goal is intentionally impeded by an opponent, through unlawful means, i.e. an offence punishable by a free kick (or a penalty kick), thus denying the attacking player's team the aforesaid goal-scoring opportunity, the offending player shall be sent off the field of play for serious foul play in accordance with Law XII (n).

Decision 16:
If, in the opinion of the referee, a player, other than the goalkeeper within his own penalty area, denies his opponents a goal, or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, by intentionally handling the ball, he shall be sent off the field of play for serious foul play in accordance with Law XII (n).

Reason:
New decision 15 is, in principle, confirmation within the Laws of the Game of the pertinent decisions of the mandatory instruction issued by the board last year. New decision 16 is along the same lines: Its purpose is also to eliminate an act of serious foul play. The intention of decision 16 is not to penalise every handball offence within the penalty area by sending off the offender.

The essential factor is that the handling of the ball is deliberately intended to deny the opponent of an obvious chance of scoring a goal, for example a defender who purposely stops the ball with his hand(s) just as the ball is about to enter the net.

Likewise, a goalkeeper who prevents an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by stopping the ball with his hand(s) outside the penalty area shall also be sent off.

New decision 17 is as follows:
The board is of the opinion that a goalkeeper, in the circumstances described in Law XII 5(a) will be considered to be in control of the ball when he takes possession of the ball by touching it with any part of his hands or arms.

Possession of the ball would include the goalkeeper intentionally parrying the ball, but would not include the circumstances where, in the opinion of the referee, the ball rebounds accidentally from the goalkeeper, for example after he has made a save.

Reason:
The expression "takes control of the ball" as used in Law XII 5(a) should be more clearly defined. Referees must ensure that Law XII 5(a) is really implemented.

If a goalkeeper, from the moment he takes control of the ball with his hand(s) or arm(s) touches it again with his hand(s) or arm(s) without it in the meantime having been touched or played by another player of the same team outside of the penalty area or by a player of the opposing team either inside or outside the penalty area, he shall be penalised by the award of an indirect free kick to the opposition.

Irrespective of the aforegoing, the four-step rule still has to be observed and the appropriate punishment imposed. It should likewise be noted that an indirect free kick shall also be awarded if a goalkeeper indulges in timewasting tactics.

An additional instruction from the board concerned timewasting. The board insists that referees be more severe. In particular, referees should compensate for all time lost regardless of the match score (e.g. during substitutions, injuries, etc.).

Out of play for far too long

WHAT has been a source of discomfort for some time to insiders in football has now become a subject ofwider discussion.

Since the time television channels started imitating the Italian broadcasting station, RAI, by measuring the "net" time of play in a game, the enormous amount of time lost as a result of the "dead ball" (lengthy interruptions in play caused by tending injured players, gauging the distance required by the laws in a free kick, substituting players and just sheer tactical timewasting) has become a cause for annoyance that can now be documented.

At some matches at the World Cup finals in Italy, the ball was recorded in actual play for fewer than 50 minutes. FIFA decided that it was high time something was done about it.

The timing for an analysis of the problem was a fortuitous one for the world federation since the general secretary, Joseph S. Blatter, declared it his primary responsibility in the preparations for the World Cup to improve the quality of refereeing over the next few years.

FIFA has, in the meantime, been given substantial back-up by officials in the Italian Association, Paolo Casarin, a former top-flight referee appointed by the world federation to the Referees' Committee after his retirement, has analysed the issue of timewasting in the Italian first division and compiled some statistics.

Casarin has also managed to keep the ball rolling for several minutes longer at each match after delivering specific instructions to his referees.

In his evaluation, Casarin investigated the following causes for timewasting: gauging the stipulated distance when positioning the wall, attending to genuinely or supposedly injured players on the pitch, discussions after cautions or expulsions, and substituting players.

During the 1990-91 season in Italy, 30 minutes of each round of matches in the first division were lost tending only injuries and positioning the wall.

With other avoidable timewasting situations, the amount of dawdling in an Italian championship round accumulated to 90 minutes — one wasted match in nine games on a football Sunday.

Clarifying

After clarifying these problems systematically with the top Italian referees, the average net playing time increased to over 60 minutes during the last season whereas the 1989-90 championship had attained this figure or exceeded it in only three rounds.

Casarin is expecting an increase of over 65 minutes in the time actually played and one of his demands on the referees will be an even speedier formation of the wall.

Paolo Casarin's statistics brought to light one significant disclosure — that older referees ended their matches sooner than the others.

Their physical condition, it would seem, deters them from making allowances for compensation of lost time, in the way FIFA repeatedly demands, after 90 minutes of normal playing time have ended.

This is further proof that referees underestimate the demands made on participants of a top-class game.

As a matter of interest, offside situations arise far less often than generally thought. If a referee can restart play quickly after each interruption and thus save about three seconds every time, it does not take much to calculate how long the net playing time can be extended.

The world's leading referees will, in future, not be able to avoid coming to grips with the issue of footballing tactics.

Casarin's claim that some referees cannot explain the difference between man-to-man and zone marking is probably true in other countries as well as Italy. In any case, it is FIFA's firm intention from now on to devote more time to this topic.

It is intolerable that referees who in theory receive the best available training reveal such gaps in tactical knowledge making them powerless to deal with deception and dupery.

This aspect of modern football can be regarded as affirmation for FIFA that its wish to see professional first-class international refereeing (including training specialised linesmen) has become a timely principle.

A facet of football that has perhaps been neglected too long is being given some overdue attention. Italy is in this respect again ahead ofthe times.

As from the 1993-94 season, professional referees will be on the scene to officiate at their first division matches.

Bergomi . . . uses video to "spy" on opposition strikers.

Blessing or curse?

PICTURES via the television or video camera are often no less than a trauma for the world-class referee.

Whereas he has a fraction of second in which to make a decision, film recordings — sometimes replayed in slow motion — can lead to different conclusions. The video — a blessing or a curse?

Alexandre Kohn and Bernard Poiseuil have compiled an illustrated study which deals in detail with every possible aspect and application of the video — and its limitations.

Using examples and quotations from coaches (such as Hidalgo and Platini), they show that France discovered the benefits of the video a long time ago and has been using them to ever increasing advantage — mainly as an aid in training footballers in technique and tactics.

Videos, nowadays a commonplace utensil, were first used regularly by the top clubs, Nantes, Saint-Etienne and Paris Saint-Germain.

Another outlet for their use could be described as a means of spying. Giuseppe Bergomi, a defender with Internazionale and captain of Italy, told the authors that he had been studying opposing strikers for quite a while.

Hidalgo, however, warns about "spying" too actively because thorough familiarisation with the characteristics of the opposing team has the disadvantage of diminishing one's own creativity and thus the standard of the spectacle.

Cameras

He is also of the opinion that video recordings reveal little about the rhythm of a match and that meticulous observation of every characteristic of a future opponent takes about ten experts.

Even so, the advantages of video recordings are not stretched to the limit. In France, every professional football match since 1989 has been filmed for viewing by the Disciplinary Committee.

Cameras are used in all the big stadia of Europe to monitor hooligan behaviour among the crowd. In the game itself, the video has another advantage over the television camera. To achieve more spectacular pictures, 90 per cent of the time the angle in television recordings is narrower than that in video films.

The research undertaken by the writers, however, clearly illustrates that instant reference to a video after a controversial refereeing decision is not advisable.

Without jumping to conclusions, the two writers have come up with an objective description of the opportunities and limitations of the uses of video in football.

Considering the pressure from those fanatics clamouring for more drastic action, it is a report that must not be under-estimated.

Alexandre Kohn/Bernard Poiseuil: La video, pour quoi faire? (Etude sur les applications de la video au football). Editoria, 9, rue Thenard, 75005 Paris.

WORLD UNDER-17 CHAMPIONSHIP 1991

PAUL GARDNER REPORTS

THE THING that makes the Under-17 World Cup such an intriguing affair is that you never know what to expect.

The traditional certainties of football — that Brazil and Italy and Germany and so on will be strong, do not necessarily apply here — as the luckless Italians found out when they lost the opening game to the United States. It was the first time the US had ever beaten Italy in football, at any age level.

The result sent the Italians into shock, and they never recovered. They had played an utterly mediocre game, full of inaccurate passes and sterile individual dribbles, and they had missed a penalty kick.

They were not much better in their second game, against China, but with only eight minutes left, seemed to be heading for a rather untidy win. That was when China's Yi Huang left-footed a tremendous 20-yard free-kick past goalkeeper Diego Mainardis to tie the score at 2-2. A breath-taking goal, and the one that effectively finished Italy's chances.

A 0-0 draw with Argentina followed, and Italy were out.

But they did not disappear. Coach Sergio Vatta, along with Raffaele Ranucci (head of the Italian FA's Youth Division) were so displeased that they made the boys stay on to watch other teams training and playing.

The young players — they included Eddy Baggio, younger brother of multi-million-dollar Juventus star Roberto — came from the cream of Italian clubs: Milan, Inter, Roma, Fiorentina, Juventus, Sampdoria, etc. Vatta said the boys needed to learn a little humility, and blamed the clubs for giving them an exaggerated view of their own talents.

Outstanding

Vatta had nothing but praise for the US, which he saw as a team playing simple, straightforward soccer, with all the players willing to work for the others. Solid teamwork, yes, but with several outstanding individuals, such as midfielders John McKeon and Nelson Vargas, and forward Temoc Suarez. The US went on to beat Argentina (another first-ever) and then China, and qualified for the quarter-final with full points.

In Group B, another of soccer's "third-world" teams triumphed — this time, Australia. In their first game, the Aussies started off like world-beaters, racing to a 4-1 half-time lead over Mexico. But the Australians could not keep up their hectic pace, and at the final whistle the Mexicans had got it back to 4-3 and were threatening to tie the game.

But a 2-0 win over Congo was enough to get the Australians through, despite a 1-0 loss to Asian champions, Qatar. That was the only goal that Qatar scored in the first round, but the win qualified them for the quarter-finals.

Brazil swept all before them in Group C, scoring seven goals without reply in victories over Germany, Sudan and the United Arab Emirates. Among those goals was a dazzling solo effort by Adriano against Germany. Quickly controlling an awkwardly bouncing rebound, Adriano corkscrewed his way through the penalty area, beating four German defenders before fooling the goalkeeper and rolling the ball into the empty net.

Impressive as Brazil locked, they were not the talk of the first round.

That honour went to Ghana, who sparkled in wins over Cuba and Uruguay, and a 1-1 tie with European champions Spain. Featuring three players — Nii Lamptey, Yaw Preko and Isaac Asare — already playing professionally with the Belgian club Anderlecht — the Ghanaians delighted everyone with slick ball control and high-speed attacking soccer.

Well done everybody . . . Ghana's victorious squad celebrate their triumph against Spain in the final.

GLORY FOR GHANA AS GIANTS TAKE BACK SEAT

The Spanish coach — former Real Madrid star Juan Santisteban — found his head still in a whirl the day after his team's game with Ghana: "In the first half, I thought they had 22 players on the field!"

As the second round began, a sad truth was made clear with harsh statistics: the total attendance for all 24 first-round games was a mere 21,178 — under 1,000 per game.

The Spanish had no problem with Germany in the quarter-final. They had beaten the Germans comfortably by 2-0 in the European final earlier this year, and they did so again — this time the score was 3-1.

The Australians and the Americans had both done well in their first games, and were considered favourites in the quarter-finals. Both lost.

In Viareggio, Australia were eliminated 2-1 by Argentina. The Aussies missed a penalty kick, but the young Argentinians were proving a good all-round team, with a solid defence, and — in Christian Akselman and Luciano Oliveri — the usual ball artists up front. Two goals from Ruben Comelles sent the Australians home.

The Americans, with three wins under their belt, made the mistake of underestimating Qatar, which had only one win.

Roy Rees, the Welshman who coaches the Americans, later admitted that the first training session after his team had won their third game, against China, "was the worst I've ever had, with any team — everyone was asleep."

Over-confidence

The team's over-confidence received a fatal boost when Brian Kelly scored against Qatar after only two minutes. Ten minutes later, Qatar got the goal they needed — from Bu-Hendi's free kick — and then tightened their defensive grip on the game.

The Americans, their game throttled in midfield, had no answer. When penalty kicks arrived, the first nine players all scored. The tenth, defender Shawn Bryden, saw his kick saved by goalkeeper Al-Rumaihi, and the Americans were out.

Sadly, either Brazil or Ghana had to go at this early stage. The two teams met in Carrara and produced an unforgettable game of end-to-end action that had everything: sweeping passing movements, skillful dribbling, shots, saves, balls kicked off the goal line — and wonderful goals.

Ghana's star Lamptey, put his team 1-0 up with a powerful 20 yard volley in the first half, but Tavares levelled just two minutes into the second half.

Eighteen pulsating minutes later, Ghana swept down the left, the cross was headed back by Preko, and there was Mohammed Cargo, launching himself horizontally to volley the ball home with a spectacular scissor kick.

Everyone now talked of a Spain-Ghana final, and so it proved, though neither team had it easy in the semi-finals. Ghana were caught in the same wily defensive web that Qatar had so effectively spun against the US.

Qatar's Brazilian coach, Jose Avila, justified his team's tactics: "Dr. Havelange (FIFA President) told me that the sport needs attacking soccer. But I told him, that is for the big teams. We are a small country, we have only about 220 under-17 players. We have to use tactics."

And once again, Qatar's tactics took the game to penalty kicks-this time after a 0-0 draw. But Ghana — who had wasted several excellent scoring chances during the game — won the penalty shoot-out 4-2.

Against the relentlessly-improving

FROM ITALY

Argentina, Spain started off well enough, dominating the early stages. Sandro Sierra's 30-yard blast came back off the Argentine crossbar, and Spain kept up the pressure until Juan Murgui put them ahead after 23 minutes.

The goal seemed to inspire the Argentines, rather than the Spaniards, and — with Argentina doing most of the attacking — the game ended as their centre-forward Oliveri shot just wide, with Spain goalkeeper Javier Lopez clawing desperately at the air.

A sweet win for Spain, but with a bitter edge to it. In the 70th minute defender Enrique Medina had sunk to his knees, cluthing his head in despair. The reason: he had been given a yellow card, his second of the tournament, enough to put him out of the final.

Orders

In the third-place game, Qatar managed yet again to end up in a penalty shoot-out. It hadn't looked that way when Qatar were leading Argentina 1-0 with two seconds left in the game. But that was enough for Akselman to wriggle free in the penalty area and plant a firm shot under goalkeeper Al-Rumaihi.

And it was Akselman who scored the decisive penalty kick.

Thus Argentina, one of the youngest teams in the tournament, took the bronze medal. The team were under strict orders to behave themselves — after the disgraceful behaviour of the Argentinians in the World Youth Championship in Portugal in June. The boys came through brilliantly, never arguing with the referee, collecting only two yellow cards in six games, and taking the Fair Play Trophy by a wide margin.

The final, played in Fiorentina's stadium in Florence, was something of a disappointment, especially to those looking for a feast of attacking play from two essentially attacking teams. Spain, without key defender Medina, perhaps had a reason for caution. But why did Ghana, at full strength, play the whole game with only one true forward — Preko?

Opponents

It was a fact that Ghana, for all their attacking skills, had not scored more than two goals in any game — something that their German coach, Otto Pfister, attributed to fear on the part of his opponents, who always packed their defences.

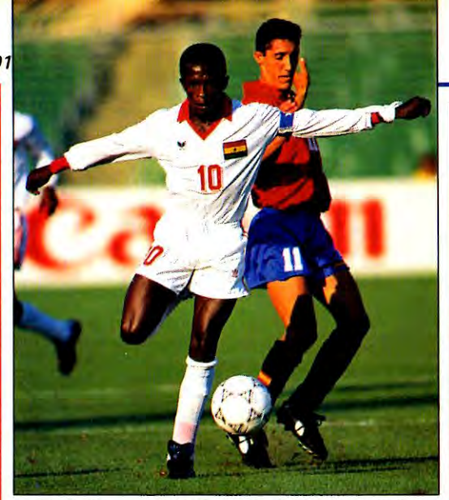
Ghana dominated, and Spain, pressed back on defence, attacked as best they could. The Spanish held out until four minutes from the end, when Emmanuel Duah raced forward to meet Nana Opoku's corner kick with a bullet header. Pedro Velasco, defending on the goal-line, got his head to the ball, but could only deflect it into the roof of the net.

Then, for four minutes, the tiring Spanish put their heads down in all-out attack. They came close. Murgui's shot was blocked at the last fraction of a second, while Cesar Palacios had a header cleared off the line by full-back Sebastian Barnes.

When the final whistle sounded, the stadium was echoing to the singing of the Ghanaian fans — who made up about half of the disappointing crowd of around 5,000. On the field, most of the Spanish players were lying exhausted, many of them in tears.

The better team had won, no doubt about that. After the game, Juan Santisteban admitted that. But he also brought up the ugly question of age. He clearly believed that Ghana were using over-age players.

It was a sad — but somehow inevitable — note on which to finish a tournament that had featured so much sportsmanship, so many good games, and so many promising players.



On the ball . . . Ghana's Opoku beats Spain's Robaina.

THE SQUADS

ARGENTINA

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Raul Sanzotti	Argentinos Jun.	12 01 75
2	Ricardo Castellani	River Plate	23 05 75
3	Rodolfo Arruabarrena	Boca Juniors	20 07 75
4	Gustavo Lombardi	River Plate	10 09 75
5	Silvio Rivero	Boca Juniors	02 01 75
6	Carlos Chaile	Ferrocarril Oeste	14 01 75
7	Ruben Bernuncio	S. Lorenzo	19 01 76
8	Claudio Husain	Velez Sarsfield	20 01 74
9	Luciano Oliveri	Racing Club	09 07 75
10	Marcelo Gallardo	River Plate	18 01 76
11	Juan Veron	Estudiantes L.P.	09 03 75
12	Damian Garofalo	Estudiantes L.P.	12 04 75
13	Ariel Zapata	Estudiantes L.P.	02 09 74
14	Angel Morales	Independiente	14 06 75
15	Ruben Comelles	Argentinos Jun.	04 04 75
16	Juan Azconzabal	Estudiantes L.P.	08 09 74
17	Christian Akselman	Racing Club	17 08 74
18	Norberto Alonso	River Plate	27 01 75

Coach: Reinaldo Carlos Merlo

URUGUAY

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Yany Tome	Defensor	19 07 75
2	Luis Brejo	River Plate	22 08 74
3	Tabare Aguillar	Defensor	30 08 74
4	Marcos Olivera	Danubio	23 08 74
5	Sergio Focco	River Plate	26 08 74
6	Gustavo Dominguez	River Plate	07 11 74
7	Nestor Hoaguy	Liverpool	23 08 74
8	Carlos Vasecelaire	Penarol	18 10 74
9	Diego Campos	Defensor	10 03 75
10	Javier Papariello	Danubio	08 07 75
11	Juan Gonzalez	Paysandu	22 09 74
12	Marcelo Varela	Wanderers	26 10 74
13	Carlos Fontela	Danubio	29 01 75
14	Diego Ayerza	River Plate	16 09 75
15	Alejandro Machado	Defensor	08 09 74
16	Andres Melo	Defensor	22 05 75
17	Oscar De Los Santos	Progreso	05 09 74
18	Raul Carrancio	Rentistas	20 08 74

Coach: Jesus Rodriguez Prado

AUSTRALIA

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Steven Wardle	S. Melbourne	16 11 74
2	Joao Pires	Adelaide Hellas	20 09 74
3	Tony Josevski	St George	03 03 75
4	Aaron Healey	S. Melbourne	24 11 74
5	Craig Moore	North Star	12 12 75
6	Paul Dee	St George	13 08 74
7	Anthony Carbone	AIS	13 10 74
8	Fabio Macolino	St George	23 08 74
9	Vasilios Kalogaracos	AIS	21 03 75
10	Alex Kiratzoglou	S. Melbourne	27 08 74
11	Vasko Trpcevski	Sunshine G.C.	07 03 75
12	Matthew Coutouvidis	Salisbury Utd	18 02 75
13	Lorenzo Campagna	St. George	06 09 74
14	Tom Haythornthwaite	Melita	20 09 74
15	Darren Iocca	Marconi	29 08 74
16	Paul Agostino	Adelaide Hellas	09 06 75
17	Dominic Usalj	St George	22 08 74
18	Geofrey Callinan	Adamstown	10 08 74

Coach: Les Scheinflug

ITALY

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Diego Mainardis	Juventus	08 01 75
2	Alessandro Rinaldi	Lazio	23 11 74
3	Alessandro Birindelli	Empoli	12 11 74
4	Luigi Sartor	Juventus	30 01 75
5	Daniele Giraldi	Fiorentina	06 11 74
6	Francesco Tortorelli	Milan	17 09 74
7	Alessandro Del Piero	Padova	09 11 74
8	Maco Caputi	Roma	14 11 74
9	Eddy Baggio	Fiorentina	23 08 74
10	Ivano Della Morte	Torino	13 10 74
11	Mirco Poloni	Atalanta	18 09 74
12	Matteo Sereni	Sampdoria	11 02 75
13	Giovani Chummiello	Fiorentina	06 09 74
14	Maurizio Sala	Sampdoria	20 02 75
15	Fabio Moro	Milan	13 07 75
16	Mirko Conte	Inter	12 08 74
17	Rosario Cerminara	Udinese	07 10 74
18	Graziano Lorusso	Bologna	27 08 74

Coach: Sergio Vatta

CONGO

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Moyere Ngankia	Kotoko de Mfoa	01 10 76
2	Compaige Ntsika	C.A.R.A.	22 10 74
3	Hugues Moukandi	Diables-Noirs	01 12 74
4	Davy Mboyo	Kotoko de Mfoa	28 11 76
5	Elie Malonga	Club 57	21 09 75
6	Christis Milembolo	Ceremonial	19 09 74
7	Ange Kissita	U.S. Agip	05 02 75
8	Jaures Bitambiki	Club 57	27 06 75
9	Roland Buitys	Kotoko de Mfoa	15 08 74
10	Patrick Ldemba	Label P.M.E.	14 10 74
11	Gaston Kibiti	Pigeon-Vert	11 08 74
12	Sylvere Boungou	Inter-Club	20 06 75
13	Tope-Assana	Label P.M.E.	18 12 75
14	Francis Tchitembo	Juventus	12 08 75
15	Frederick Ntontomona	Club 57	28 08 74
16	Jean Boumba	U.S. Agip	29 08 74
17	Patrick Kombo	Club 57	30 04 75
18	Emanuel Mpassi	C.A.R.A.	17 03 75

Coach: Joachim Fickert

UNITED STATES

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Kyle Campbell	Nomads	19 04 75
2	Matthew McKeon	Cougars	24 09 74
3	Michael Dunne	Sockers	19 05 75
4	Gabe Serda	Internacional	15 06 75
5	Temoc Suarez	Charleston	19 04 75
6	Cesar Torres	Riot	24 02 75
7	Shawn Bryden	Texans	19 10 74
8	Julio Guzman	Miami	05 02 75
9	Michael Slivinski	Grossman	31 10 74
10	Mark Jonas	Bethesda	17 10 74
11	Nelson Vargas	Emerson	06 08 74
12	Alberto Montoya	Los Altos	19 02 75
13	Shohn Beachum	ISA United	05 07 75
14	Roy Gmitter	Santa Rosa Utd	02 08 74
15	Michael Fisher	Sockers	28 05 75
16	Brian Kelly	Delco	06 10 74
17	Will Kohler	Narberth	13 03 75
18	Sal Fontana	Bohemia	11 04 75

Coach: Roy Rees

BRAZIL

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Fabio Oliveira	Flamengo	12 10 75
2	Carlos Camargo	Novorizontino	01 05 75
3	Angelico Fuchs	Internacional	04 09 74
4	Pericles Ramos	Matshubara	02 01 75
5	Rodrigo Silva	Bahia	23 08 74
6	Fabio Brito	C.A. Juventus	06 06 75
7	Valnir Medeiros	Flamengo	10 07 75
8	Yan Razera	Vasco da Gama	01 05 75
9	Giancarlo Dantas	Vasco da Gama	25 08 74
10	Adriano Silva	Guarani	20 09 74
11	Leandro Tavares	Mineiro	25 01 75
12	Carlos Godoi	Guarani	01 05 75
13	Carlos Rodrigues	Guarani	05 12 74
14	Ronaldo Silva	Sao Paulo	09 10 74
15	Victor Santos	Vasco da Gama	03 11 74
16	Elenilson Assis	Fluminense	28 04 75
17	Warn. Campos	Correa	13 12 74
18	Dirceu Freitas	Internacional	27 12 74

Coach: Julio Cesar Leal Junior

CHINA

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Jian Yao	Beijing	30 09 74
2	Gang Chen	Shandong	07 11 74
3	Qi Zhu	Shangai	24 10 74
4	Fei Gao	Tianjin	29 09 74
5	Jian Xiao	Shandong	26 11 74
6	Yi Huang	Shanghai	26 10 74
7	Zhihua Qiu	Guangdong	20 09 74
8	Maoren Hong	Guangdong	24 08 74
9	Yi Zhuang	Liaoning	17 11 74
10	Yu Liang	Tianjin	26 09 74
11	Yi Pan	Liaoning	20 12 74
12	Lejun Deng	Beijing	18 09 74
13	Aijie Song	Tianjin	04 10 74
14	Bing Zhang	Hubei	20 10 74
15	Hao Wang	Shandong	07 09 74
16	Weiguo Dong	Guangdong	03 11 74
17	Bo Zhang	Hubei	14 08 74

Coach: Zhu Guanghu

GERMANY

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Christian Fiedler	Hertha Berlin	27 03 75
2	Markus Schenk	FC Berlin	26 08 74
3	Jens Rasiejewski	VfL Marburg	01 01 75
4	Lars Schiersand	VfL Osnabruck	14 02 75
5	Stefan Odenhausen	SF Oestrich	08 09 74
6	Jorg Krawczyk	VfL Bochum	23 11 74
7	Markus Baehr	FC Dossenheim	10 09 74
8	Karl-Heinz Lutz	Karlsruher SC	08 03 75
9	Chnstof Babatz	Hannover 96	03 09 74
10	Michael Groh	E. Frankfurt	29 01 75
11	Rafael Lehmann	B. Dortmund	27 09 74
12	Karsten Kusch	R-W Erfurt	29 11 74
13	Mirko Leuschner	E. Frankfurt	09 10 74
14	Sascha Lense	E. Frankfurt	05 10 74
15	Oliver Buch	R-W Erfurt	05 09 74
16	Jens Sarna	B. Leverkusen	20 09 74
17	Goya Jaekel	Hertha Berlin	25 10 74
18	Shushil Meurer	B. Dortmund	28 06 75

Coach: Fritz Bischoff

CUBA

No	Name	Birth
1	Lazaro Morales	14 12 74
2	Eliezer Perez	02 09 74
3	Lester Ortiz	23 12 75
4	Jose Melo	31 08 74
5	Diomedes Lopez	11 03 75
6	Rafael Silva	01 04 75
7	Osniel Castro	05 08 74
8	Felix Gonzalez	21 09 74
9	Luis Gomez	15 10 74
10	Luis Pellicier	10 08 74
11	Yanko Dalmau	06 11 75
12	Abdel Chaviano	27 08 74
13	Osmani Hernandez	09 12 75
14	Vladimir Hechavarria	07 11 74
15	Yoel Sanchez	29 05 75
16	Osmar Glavez	26 11 74
17	Adrobandy Fernandez	21 09 74
18	Odel Hernandez	03 08 74

Coach: Lazaro Fernandez Castellanos

GHANA

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Ben Owu	Missionaries	14 10 74
2	Sebastian Barnes	Hearts of Oak	18 11 76
3	Isaac Asare	Anderlecht	01 09 74
4	Osei Kuffour	King Faisal	03 09 76
5	Kofi Nimo	Hearts of Oak	01 10 74
6	Mohammed Gargo	Real Tamale Utd	19 06 75
7	Yaw Preko	Anderlecht	08 09 74
8	Nii Lamptey	Anderlecht	10 12 74
9	Willis Brown	Missionaries	26 10 74
10	Nana Opoku	Brong Ahafo Utd	31 08 74
11	Emmanuel Duah	Neoplan Stars	14 11 76
12	Daniel Addo	Great Olympics	06 11 76
13	Kofi Mbeah Jnr	Missionaries	11 12 74
14	Abdul Migima	Okwawu Utd	05 12 74
15	Joseph Kevin	Missionaries	17 12 74
16	Samuel Kissi	Okwawu Utd	05 09 74
17	Mark Edusei	King Faisal	29 09 76
18	Ali Jarra	Hearts of Oak	04 10 76

Coach: Otto Pfister

MEXICO

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Victor Silva	America	23 11 75
2	Jose Maldonado	Atlas	30 08 74
3	Jorge Avendano	Cruz Azul	02 11 74
4	Genoni Martinez	America	22 02 75
5	Rafael Astivia	America	09 04 75
6	Luis Alcocer	Guadalajara	08 08 74
7	Josel Sanchez	Guadalajara	17 08 74
8	Mario Garza	Monterrey	05 12 74
9	Roberto Garcia	Guadalajara	26 05 75
10	Jose Garcia	U.N.A.M.	14 08 74
11	Carlos Cantu	U.A. Nvo. Leon	13 12 75
12	Ruben Salas	A. Veracruz	04 08 74
13	Jorge Toledano	America	02 02 75
14	Rodolfo	U.N.A.M.	04 12 74
15	Joahan Rodriguez	Amateur	15 08 75
16	Omar Rodriguez	Amateur	15 08 75
17	Pedro Resendiz	Cruz Azul	15 12 74
18	Mario Trevino	U.A. Nvo. Leon	11 09 75

Coach: Juan Manuel Alvarez

SUDAN

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Adil Yahya	Elzahra Jun.	14 11 74
2	S. Abdelmahmoud	Elshabia Jun.	12 08 74
3	Mohd. H. Mohamed		06 04 75
4	Hassan A. Hassan	Elsababi Jun.	10 03 75
5	Aakif Gobara	Elhilal Jun.	03 12 75
6	Hassan M. Hassan	Youth Ju. Asso.	01 04 75
7	Esam Osman	Youth Ju. Asso.	20 09 74
8	Mohamed Ahmed	Hilal Jun.	11 09 74
9	Abdelwahab Belal	Youth Jun. Asso.	04 12 74
10	Ibrahim Elhussein	Merekh Jun.	25 09 75
11	Nemarii Saeed	Hilal Juniors	13 12 74
12	Husham Abdelhai	Merekh Jun.	26 03 75
13	Mustafa Komi	Elshabia Jun.	13 08 74
14	Osama Ahmed	Youth Ju. Asso.	05 04 75
15	Khalid Elmustafa	Merekh Jun.	25 07 75
16	Mustafa Abdalla	Hilal Juniors	09 08 74
17	Eltag Adam	Abasiya Jun.	02 08 74
18	Hassan Ali	Elitihad Jun.	02 03 75

Coach: Abdel Aziz Shliman

SPAIN

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Javier Vallejo	Osasuna	22 09 75
2	Jose Estevez	Mallorca	03 08 74
3	Carlos Caputo	Sevilla	17 12 74
4	Cesar Chocarro	Osasuna	19 10 74
5	Enrique Ortega	Valencia	14 09 74
6	Ramon Exposito	Real Valladolid	25 11 74
7	Juan C. Vald.	Barcelona	09 10 74
8	Gerado Leon	Osasuna	07 12 74
9	Carlos Fumero	Real Madrid	14 10 74
10	Pedro Moron	Real Madrid	08 10 74
11	Antonio Robaina	Las Palmas	30 11 74
12	Juan Pardo	Barcelona	15 11 74
13	Jose Garcia	R.C. Depotivo	30 12 74
14	Jose Quevedo	Rayo Vallecano	06 08 74
15	Felipe Rodr.	Real Madrid	23 01 75
16	Emilio Ortiz	A.D. Pavia	14 11 74
17	Joyce Venecia	Real Madrid	29 09 74
18	Daniel Lara	Real Madrid	22 12 74

Coach: Juan Santisteban

QATAR

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Hussain Al-Rumaihi	Qatar S.C.	12 09 74
2	Jassim Al-Tamimi	Wackra S.C.	10 08 74
3	Khalil Al-Mazroei	Wackra S.C.	01 10 74
4	Ali Al-Haj	Al-Arabi S.C.	12 10 74
5	Khalid Al-Kuwari	Shamal S.C.	05 12 74
6	Rayed Al-Boloushi	Al-Arabi S.C.	15 10 74
7	Ahmed Al-Shafi	Rayan S.C.	25 09 74
8	Ali Al-Ali	Saad S.C.	23 12 74
9	Mohd. Al-Bedaid	Rayan S.C.	14 10 74
10	Mohd. Salem	Rayan S.C.	15 08 75
11	Yousuf Al-Wadaani	Al-Ahli S.C.	27 11 74
12	Essa Abu-Haqah	Al-Arabi S.C.	28 02 75
13	Ahmed Bu-Hendi	Qatar S.C.	25 10 74
14	Yousuf Al-Kuwari	Al-Arabi S.C.	10 10 74
15	Ali Al-Malki	Qatar S.C.	20 09 74
16	Khalil Al-Malki	Al-Arabi S.C.	11 09 74
17	Khalid Al-Naimi	Qatar S.C.	23 09 74
18	Ghanim Al-Kuwari	Qatar S.C.	11 09 74

Coach: Jose Roberto Avila

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

No	Name	Club	Birth
1	Jumaa Humaid	Al Shabab	02 09 74
2	Mukhtar K. Mukhtar	Al Wasl	14 11 74
3	Munther Hasan	Al Wasl	12 01 75
4	Khalid Shael	Al Wasl	25 12 74
5	Adel Abdulla	Kalba	15 11 74
6	Ali Mohamad	Al Shaab	13 11 74
7	Adnan Mohd	Al Wehda	04 09 74
8	Ali Mohnd	Al Wehda	23 12 74
9	Ahmed Rashid	Al Wasl	16 11 74
10	Ali Ghulam	Al Wasl	03 09 74
11	Jamal Ibrahim	Al Sharjah	22 11 74
12	Eissa Majid	Al Nasr	17 11 74
13	Saeed Saeed	Al Arabi	08 12 75
14	Nasser Saeed	Al Wasl	23 11 74
15	Salim Khalefa	Al Nasr	28 12 74
16	Adel Ahmed	Al Wehda	06 09 75
17	Salim Mohmed	Al Khalij	19 10 74
18	Faiz I. Faiz	Al Wehda	19 11 74

Coach: Zia Ishao Benjamin

Turn overleaf for full results

Just too late . . . Argentina's Comelles passes before Qatar's Abu-Haqab can get in a tackle.

FIFA UNDER-17 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS FOR THE JVC CUP

Group A:
(Montecatini/Viareggio)
Italy 0
USA 1 (Dunne 17)
Att: 3,254 **Ref:** Tavares da Silva (Brazil)
China 1 (Gao 59)
Argentina 2 (Veron 50, Castellani, pen, 78)
Att: 980 **Ref:** Sundell (Sweden)
Italy 2 (Del Piero 31, Giraldi 67)
China 2 (Liang 14, Huang 73)
Att: 2,000 **Ref:** Salas (Mexico)
USA 1 (McKeon 23)
Argentina 0
Att: 2,000 **Ref:** Benkhadija (Tunisia)
Italy 0
Argentina 0
Att: 1900 **Ref:** Leduc (France)
USA 3 (Jonas 7, Montoya 37, McKeon 79)
China 1 (Gao 33)
Att: 1900 **Ref:** Watti (Syria)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
USA	3	3	0	0	5	1	6
Argentina	3	1	1	1	2	2	3
Italy	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
China	3	0	1	2	4	7	1

Group B:
(Carrara)
Congo 0
Qatar 0
Att: 863 **Ref:** Orellana (Ecuador)
Australia 4 (Agostino 5, 29, 30, Kiratzoglou 17)
Mexico 3 (Healey og 25, Toledano 75, 82)
Att: 518 **Ref:** Lim Kee Chong (Mauritius)
Congo 0
Australia 2 (Healey 25, Kiratzoglou 74)
Att: 500 **Ref:** Kathirveloo (Malaysia)
Qatar 0
Mexico 1 (Toledano 5)
Att: 500 **Ref:** Farina (Paraguay)
Congo 2 (Kibiti 18, Tohicaya-Ldemba 32)
Mexico 1 (R. Garcia 72)
Att: 462 **Ref:** Van der Ende (Netherlands)
Qatar 1 (Al-Tamimi)
Australia 0
Att: 462. **Ref:** Bava (Argentina)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Australia	3	2	0	1	6	4	4
Qatar	3	1	1	1	1	1	3
Congo	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Mexico	3	1	0	2	5	6	2

Group C:
(Massa)
Sudan 4 (Elmustafa 34, Saeed 35, Elhussein 37, Ahmed 57)
U.A.E.1 (Mohamed Abdulla 59)
Att: 220 **Ref:** Success (Antigua)
Germany 0
Brazil 2 (Argel 19, Adriano 40)
Att: 1050 **Ref:** Baldac (Italy)
Sudan 1 (Ahmed 78)
Germany 3 (Sarna 48, Jaekel 62, 75)
Ref: Amendolia (Italy)
U.A.E. 0
Brazil 4 (Razera 20, Brito 26, Adriano 59, 62)
Ref: Damgaard (Denmark)
Sudan 0
Brazil 1 (Adriano 75)
Att: 665. **Ref:** Amendolia (Italy)
U.A.E. 2 (Ali Abdulrahman Mohamad 43, Jamal Ibrahim 49)
Germany 2 (Jaekel 2, Sarna 11)
Att: 665. **Ref:** Orellana (Ecuador)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Brazil	3	3	0	0	7	0	6
Germany	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
Sudan	3	1	0	2	5	5	2
U.A.E	3	0	1	2	3	10	1

Group D:
(Livorno)
Ghana 2 (Lamptey 10, 51 pen)
Cuba 1 (Sanchez Hechavarria 26)
Att: 1498 .**Ref:** Al-Mehanna (Saudi Arabia)
Uruguay 0
Spain 1 (Daniel 69)
Att: 1353 .**Ref:** Watti (Syria)
Ghana 2 (Gargo 36, Lamptey 53)
Uruguay 0
Ref: Forbes (Trinidad & Tobago)
Cuba 2 (Pellicier 56, Perez 66)
Spain 7 (Segura 5, 23, 52, Emilio 13, Murgui 43, Chocarro 58, Gonzalez 74)
Ref: Baldas (Italy)
Ghana 1 (Opoku 42)
Spain 1 (Galvez 62)
Att: 1216. **Ref:** Tavares da Silva (Brazil)
Cuba 0
Uruguay 1 (Luis Lopez Breijo 72)
Att: 1216. **Ref:** Lim Kee Chong (Mauritius)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Spain	3	2	1	0	9	3	5
Ghana	3	2	1	0	5	2	5
Uruguay	3	1	0	2	1	3	2
Cuba	3	0	0	3	3	10	0

Quarter-finals:
Montecatini:
USA 1 (Kelly 2)
Qatar 1 (Bu Hendi 15)
Qatar won 5-4 on penalties
Att: 204. **Ref:** Orellano (Ecuador)
USA: Campbell; Bryden, Guzman, Fisher, Gmitter; Kelly, McKeon, Vargas, Slivinski (Torres 77); Suarez (Kohler 62), Beachum.
Qatar: Al Rumaihi; Al-Tamimi, Al-Mazroei, Al-Boloushi, Al-Ali, Al-Bedaid (Salem 108), Al-Wadaani, BuHendi, Al-Kuwari, Al-Malki, Al-Naimi.

Viareggio:
Australia 1 (Azconzabal og)
Argentina 2 (Comelles 30, 55)
Ref: Baldas (Italy)
Australia: Wardle; Josevski, Healey, Moore, Dee, Carbone, Macolino, Kalogaracos, Kiratzoglou, Haythornthwaite, Agostino.
Argentina: Sanzotti; Azconzabal, Arruabarrena, Rivero, Chaile, Lombardi, Husain, Zapata, Comelles, Akselman, Oliveri.

Carrara:
Brazil 1 (Leandro Tavares 42)
Ghana 2 (Lamptey 36, Gargo 58)
Ref: Sundell (Sweden)
Brazil: Fabio Oliveira; Naguitao Camargo, Argel, Pencles Ramos, Rodrigo Silva, Nene Brito, Yan Razera, Gian Dantas, Adriano, Leandro Tavares, Victor Santos.
Ghana: Owu; Nimo, Barnes, Asare, Mbeah, Gargo, Opoku, Duah, Addo, Lamptey, Preko.

Livorno:
Spain 5 (Murgui 59, Tani Caguna 73, Lopez Quevedo 79)
Germany 1 (Babatz 15)
Ref: Watti (Syria)
Spain: Lopez Vallejo; Castro, Palacios, Medina, Exposito, Gutierrez, Garcia, Sandro Sierra, Toni Sagura, Murgui, Carrasco.
Germany: Fiedler; Schenk, Rasiejewski, Schiersand, Odenhausen, Baehr, Lutz, Babatz, Lense, Sarna, Jaekel.

Semi-finals:
Viareggio:
Qatar 0
Ghana 0
Ref: Baldas (Italy)
Ghana won 4-2 on penalties
Qatar: Al-Rumaihi; Al-Tamimi, Al-Mazroei, Al-Kuwari, Al-Boloushi, Al-Shafi, Al-Ali, Al-Badaid, Salem, Al-Kuwari, Al-Naimi (103 Al-Wadaani).
Ghana: Owu; Nimo, Barnes, Asare, Mbeah, Gargo, Opoku (52 Addo), Duah, Brown (58 Essien), Lamptey, Preko.

Massa:
Argentina 0
Spain 1 (Murgui 23)
Ref: Damgaard (Denmark)
Argentina: Sanzotti; Azconzabal, Arrubarena, Rivero (56 Castellani), Chaile, Lombardi, Husain, Zapata, Comelles, Akselman (67 Gallardo), Oliveri.
Spain: Lopez Vallejo; Castro, Palacios, Medina, Velasco, Gutierrez, Garcia, Sandro Sierra, Toni Segura, Murgui (76 Lopez Quevedo), Carrasco.

Third-place:
Montecatini:
Argentina 1 (Akselman 79)
Qatar 1 (Salem 62)
Ref: Van der Ende (Netherlands)
Argentina won 4-1 on penalties
Argentina: Sanzotti; Azconzabal, Arruabarena, Bernuncio (65 Veron), Chaile, Lombardi, Husain, Zapata, Comelles, Akselman, Oliveri.
Qatar: Al-Rumaihi; Al-Tamimi, Al Mazroei, Al-Kuwari, Al-Boloushi, Al-Shafi, Al-Ali, Al-Bedaid, Salem, Al-Kuwari, Al-Malki (58 Bu-Hendi).

FINAL:
Florence:
Ghana 1 (Duah 76)
Spain 0
Att: 5,000. **Ref:** Sundell (Sweden)
Ghana: Owu; Nimo, Barnes, Asare, Mbeah, Gargo, Addo, Opoku, Duah, Lamptey, Preko (73 Brown).
Spain: Lopez Vallejo; Palacios, Exposito, Castro, Gutierrez, Vaqueriza (62 Galvez), Garcia. Sandro Sierra (55 Volasco), Carrasco. Murgui, Toni Segura.

Champions: GHANA
Runners-up: Spain
Third place: Argentina
Top Scorer: Adriano (Brazil), 4 goals in 4 games.
Best Player: Nii Lamptey (Ghana).
Fair Play Trophy: Argentina.
Goalscorers:
4 - Adriano (Brazil), Lamptey (Ghana), Toni Segura (Spain).
3 - Agostino (Australia), Jaekel (Germany), Toledano (Mexico), Murgui (Spain).
2 - Gargo (Ghana), Comelles (Argentina), McKeon (USA), Kiratzoglou (Australia), Sarna (Germany), Gao (China), Ahmed (Sudan).

MasterCard Tournament All-Star Team
(selected by the members of FIFA's Technical Study Group):
Goalkeeper: Kyle Campbell (USA)
Sweeper: Isaac Asare (Ghana)
Right Defender: Alessandro Rinaldi (Italy)
Stopper: Enrique Medina (Spain)
Left Defender: Kofi Mbeah (Ghana)
Right Midfield: Deng Lejun (China)
Central Midfield: Nii Lamptey (Ghana)
Central Midfield: Adriano (Brazil)
Left Midfield: Gustavo Lombardi (Argentina)
Striker: Toni Segura (Spain)
Striker: Paul Agostino (Australia)

Previous Winners:
1985 (in China) — NIGERIA 2 West Germany 0
1987 (in Canada) — USSR 1 Nigeria 1
(USSR won 4-2 on pens)
1989 (in Scotland) — SAUDI ARABIA 2 Scotland 2
(Saudi Arabia won 5-4 on pens).

Delighted Ghanaian teammates Isaac Asare (left) and Nii Lamptey wave to the crowd as they proudly show off their winners medals.

FIFA President Joao Havelange meets the Argentinian squad who won the Fair Play Trophy.

SPAIN UPSET BY THE AGE-OLD STORY

WHILE Santisteban was the most outspoken critic of the Ghanaians' age, he was far from the only one. Of eight other coaches questioned, six said — off the record — that they agreed with Santisteban.

Jose Avila, of Qatar, shrugged the question off — but his team were also the object of over-age accusations.

Otto Pfister, the Ghana coach, scoffed at the charges, alleging that the other coaches "are all jealous of my team."

Almost universal scepticism greeted FIFA's official listing, which had Ghana, with an average age of 16 years 1 month, as the youngest team in the championship. But this is a difficult problem for FIFA to solve — not least because the age-violation charges usually involve African or Asian teams, and accusations of discrimination or racism are almost bound to arise sooner or later.

Two years ago, in the 1989 tournament, there was widespread suspicion that Saudi Arabia — winners in the final, over Scotland — had older players on its team. The matter came up at the press conference after the final game, but FIFA spokesman Guido Tognoni said there could be no FIFA investigation because no complaint had been received.

Later, the Scots apparently did complain, because FIFA investigated the Saudis. The probe was abandoned, "Owing to lack of proof" said FIFA. It never pronounced the Saudis innocent.

Possibly significantly, the Saudis did not enter this year's championship. One story has it that FIFA demanded to see photographs of this year's Saudi under-17 team. After inspecting them, FIFA declared the team "unacceptable", and the Saudis did not enter the qualifying competition.

FIFA closely inspect the passports of all players. But there are genuine difficulties in ascertaining correct ages in some African and Asian countries, where birth-registration procedures are lax.

FIFA have let it be known that if violations are discovered they will be heavily punished, with suspensions from international tournaments, even — as was the case with Mexico, caught cheating at the U-20 level — from the World Cup itself.

Action from the USA v Italy match: note the experimental 18-yard offside line.

SWITCHES PROVE A WASTE OF TIME

USING the under-17 players as guinea-pigs for two experimental rule changes turned out to be a meaningless exercise.

In the first change, offside was limited to an 18-yard deep strip at each end of the field. This, theoretically, would stop defenders pressing up, and would thus open up a vast expanse of midfield where players could move freely without the fear of being called offside, or caught in an offside trap.

In practice, the change made very little difference, because with the short notice of the change (just two months), no teams were willing to experiment.

Virtually all of them continued to play in their traditional way, in the way which they found comfortable. And safe.

If defenders had to stay back on the 18-yard line, would it not make sense to use the goalkeeper as a sweeper in that limited space? "No," said Argentine coach Reinaldo Merlo, "it does not. Then the goalkeeper is my last defender. If he has to foul, he gets red-carded. We play, as always, with a sweeper."

Conversely, no teams adopted the tactic of leaving a forward up on the 18-yard line.

Farouk Bouzo of Syria, the longest-serving member of the FIFA Referees' Committee had this to say: "I didn't notice one coach who had prepared his team for the new offside line. Most of the teams played as usual. One team — Qatar — used the line for defending, not attacking, purposes."

In statistical terms, the experiment did not boost the scoring rate. During the tournament's 32 games, 81 goals were scored, for an average of 2.53 per game. The figures for previous U-17 tournaments were: China —1985, 90 goals, average 2.81 per game; Canada —1987, 82 goals, average 2.56, Scotland —1989, 77 goals, average 2.22.

The second experiment banned a goalkeeper from using his hands to play any ball passed to him by a team-mate. Designed to cut down on time-wasting, this seemed to show promise. Most coaches were in favour of this change, though it did encourage some defenders to whack the ball into touch.

Original

This then brought on another form of time-wasting, as everyone waited for the ball to be returned. The policy of putting another ball into play immediately is under consideration, though there is a genuine — and possibly warranted — fear that this could prove expensive.

Crowds simply would not return the original ball once they saw that play had resumed.

But the goalkeeper experiment was completely undermined by FIFA itself. At the same meeting, in June, when the International Board approved the experiment, it also made another goalkeeper change: Decision 17, under which a goalkeeper may not play the ball twice with his hands on any given play.

This became a rule of the game on July 25, and was thus in force during the under-17 World Cup. Scotland's David Will, Chairman of the FIFA Referees' Committee, claimed that the no-back-pass experiment had produced positive results, but...Decision 17 was now in force, and might prove enough to stop the time wasting, in which case no further experiments with back-passes would be conducted.

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THE KEIR RADNEDGE COLUMN

Magazine Sports Writer of the Year

BALTIC STATES NEED A HELPING HAND

SHAME on Europe's big guns for not offering a helping hand to the footballers of the Baltic states.

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia will very likely compete as independent nations at the Olympic Games in Barcelona next year. Yet the opportunity to compete in the qualifying rounds of the 1994 World Cup has been denied them.

Italy, Spain, England, France and Germany possess the political strength to have forced the issue. Instead they hid behind the caution of their political leaders. And the September 14 deadline for entries into the next World Cup came and went.

Only the Baltic states' Nordic cousins, led by Denmark, have raised a voice on their behalf.

FIFA's initial reaction, when the Soviet coup collapsed, was to lump Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in with South Africa and condemn them to wait until next summer's congress for consideration of their membership.

But Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia have nothing in common with South Africa. The South Africans were formally expelled by FIFA Congress; only a formal vote of Congress can readmit them. The Baltic states, on the other hand, may have remained FIFA members all along.

Go back to May 1923. That was when Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were all admitted to FIFA membership as individual, sovereign member states of the soccer world.

Seventeen years later, in 1940, all three countries were overrun by Stalin's Red Army, acting with the connivance of Hitler through the infamous Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. The ebb and flow of warfare brought the Germans into occupation in 1941 only for the Soviet Union to enforce annexation in 1944.

Clearly, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia were never in a position to resign their memberships of FIFA. And FIFA — in response to my requests — have failed to find any record of their expulsion.

At the end of the last war, liberated nations such as Austria and Czechoslovakia appear to have re-assumed their FIFA membership without formality.

If Austria and Czechoslovakia could step straight back in 1946, why should Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia be denied immediate recognition now?

A FIFA spokesman did point out one hitch. In the 1930s the world's soccer nations were all direct members of FIFA. Later the continental confederations were set up and FIFA membership became dependent upon "regional" approval.

Precedent

Neither Lithuania, Latvia nor Estonia has ever been a member of UEFA, the European governing body, since it was not founded until the mid-1950s.

Yet that need not prove insurmountable. FIFA already have set a precedent that, in exceptional political circumstances, countries may be affiliated directly without the confederation "middle man." That precedent, of course, is Israel — who were affiliated directly to FIFA after being expelled on political grounds by the Asian confederation.

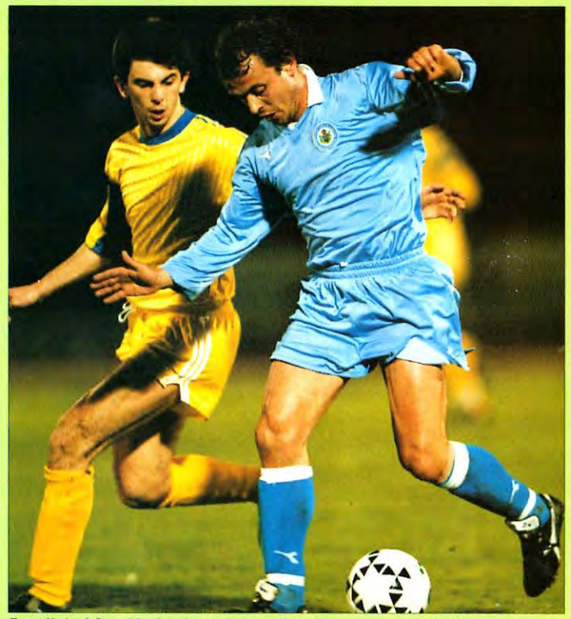
The general silence throughout Europe on the Baltic issue is surprising for more reasons than mere historical logic. The more members within UEFA, the stronger the Europe voting lobby within FIFA. Why else, do you think, the likes of the Faroe Islands and San Marino earned UEFA approval? You would have thought UEFA members would have jumped at the prospect of three more votes.

Finally, how do you explain the silence of the United States federation and its World Cup organising arm?

A high-profile campaign on behalf of the Baltic states might have been of immense value not only to Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia but in terms of domestic publicity.

Perhaps some friendly federation might campaign for extraordinary invitations to be issued for the Baltic republics to compete in the next World Cup qualifiers.

They would not get very far. But then, that's not the point.



Pasolini of San Marino in action against Romania . . . the Baltic States could have been the source of extra votes, just like the little Principality.

WHO'D BE A REFEREE?

DON'T some managers have short memories?

Last season a string of First Division bosses were moaning and wailing about the lack of refereeing consistency over punishment of the "professional" foul. World Cup referee George Courtney was among officials who had to take the flak for using their discretion.

Now that the International Board — NOT FIFA, let's get that right for a start — have clarified matters, what do we find?

Indeed, managers moaning and wailing that referees are all following the letter of the law and NOT using their discretion.

Funny game, football.

Courtney . . . one of a number of referees criticised for using their discretion last season.

CAMPAIGN DESK

You back our stand on the penalty shoot-out

READERS from all round the world have backed our campaign, launched last month, to kill the penalty shoot-out as the arbitrary decider of drawn matches.

A handful of readers did not approve of our suggestion that extra time be halted when one side scores a goal. But it's clear that fans believe the shoot-out has devalued the game's great events.

The decisive factor in swinging opinion against the shoot-out has been the plethora of matches in all competitions decided so implausibly.

Here and now let me renew the call for FIFA to think seriously about killing the shoot-out.

I understand that the matter, as we suggested last month, is being considered by the "Football 2000" committee headed by UEFA president Lennart Johansson.

A variation on the cards is this:

- If teams are level at 90 minutes, extra time is played;
- The first goal scored ends the match;
- If the two teams are still level at the end of 30 minutes' extra time, then the corner count over the initial 90 minutes is decisive;
- If the two teams are level on goals and on the 90-minute corner count, penalties shall be taken.

Promise of a step in the right direction? Watch this space.

IT'S ALL GERMAN TO ME...

UEFA'S July bulletin, commenting on the draw for the 1991-92 Champions' Cup, stated: "This will be the last occasion on which clubs from the former GDR (East Germany) will be eligible." Does that mean that if Hansa Rostock win the current German championship they cannot compete in Europe next season ... ?

The power behind the Dynamo

FOUR years ago, in these pages, we revealed the sinister secret behind Dynamo Berlin as they ground their way towards a record ten successive East German championships. The reaction was immediate: World Soccer was banned in the GDR.

Last month our initial reports were validated by the BBC 2 programme, On The Line.

On The Line researchers, in the wake of the collapse of the Berlin Wall and East Germany's Communist regime, went into the old headquarters of the hated secret police, the Stasi.

Pyramid

By accessing the Stasi computer system, they turned up all manner of proof that the East German championship had been manipulated in Dynamo's favour.

Top of the sinister pyramid was Stasi General Erich Mielke. He controlled officials, transfers and refereeing appointments.

Top FIFA referee Adolf Prokop was one of those servants on the Stasi payroll at 30,000 marks a year.

Freed from fears of hidden microphones, several of Dynamo's old stars spoke frankly about their manipulated success — and the embarrassment it caused them.

Giant goalkeeper Bodo Rudwaleit said: "I remember our cup final against Dresden in 1983. The score was 1-1 late in the game. Our forward Hans-Jurgen Riediger was well offside when he ran back to collect a pass and score. Yet he was not given offside by either Prokop or his linesman.

"Another time we were awarded a penalty which was so ridiculous the whole stadium laughed. Rainer Ernst put the ball on the penalty spot and I remember watching and thinking: 'I hope he doesn't score'."

Jurgen Bogs, who coached Dynamo through much of that era, knew that assistants were appointed whose task was to spy on the club personnel rather than direct coaching. Hidden microphones and informers would even be planted in the hotels where Dynamo's European Cup rivals stayed. (I wonder what they made of Brian Clough, when Forest beat Dynamo in the 1979-80 quarter-finals).

When the GDR fell apart, so did the Stasi and Dynamo had, overnight, lost their guardian angels. What followed was predictable: they changed their name to FC Berlin and quickly slipped into the sad anonymity of the amateur-based German third division.

Mielke, in a prison hospital, awaits trial on a string of offences. Meanwhile Rudwaleit looks back with regret. He says: "We won everthing. But we could have done so without all the 'help.' We were so strong anyway..."

Mielke . . . the former Stasi chief, who is now in hospital waiting to go for trial.

COUNTING THE FOREIGN BODIES

CONFUSION still reigns over the number of foreign players available to any club competing in Europe. If the maximum is four on the pitch, does that mean only four in the squad?

UEFA have the answer: "No club may field, per match, more than four players who cannot play for the national teams of their club's country."

As I read it, the operative word is "field", which refers to the players on the pitch at any one time. A manager can field four foreigners and keep four on the bench. But if he wants to put a foreigner on, he must take a foreigner off.

Tottenham's team manager Peter Shreeves found a tricky conundrum. Having chosen England youth international Ian Walker in goal against Stockerau of Austria in the Cup-winners' Cup, should he pick Norway's Erik Thorstvedt as substitute keeper?

Injury to Walker could have proved confusing indeed if Spurs already had four foreign outfield players in action. Fortunately, of course, Walker came through unscathed to agree a new four-year contract at White Hart Lane.

Sooner or later some luckless club will slip up, of course. Just pray it isn't yours!

Walker . . . chosen to play in Europe for Spurs and rewarded with a new four year contract.

CHEEKY KLINSMANN

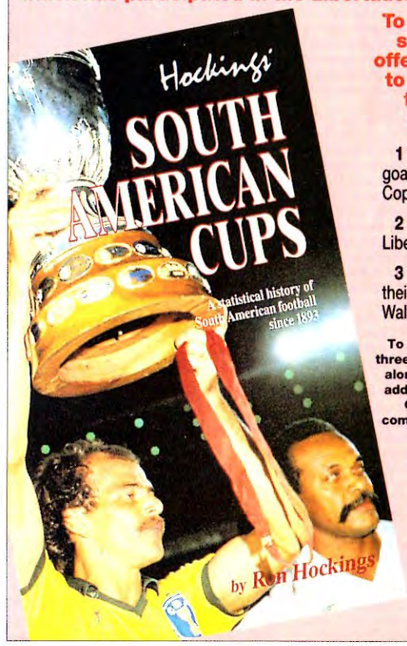
THE first round of the new Italian season was marred by hooligan incidents in Verona, Rome and — above all — Turin. Inter's German striker, Jurgen Klinsmann, was quick to offer advice, saying: "Players should take care not to inflame fans by exaggerating incidents on the field of play." That's rich, coming from the man who's made an art form out of penalty box high-diving.

South American Cups up for grabs!

WORLD SOCCER has six copies of Ron Hockings' new book — South American Cups — on offer.

The book brings together, for the first time in Europe, the results of the major international competitions held on the South American continent — the Copa America and the Libertadores Cup.

Packed with statistics, the book includes results, tables and goalscorers in the Copa America and the Libertadores Cup as well as brief histories of each club which has participated in the Libertadores Cup.



To win one of the six copies on offer, all you have to do is answer these three questions:

1 Who was the top goalscorer at the 1991 Copa America in Chile?

2 Who are the current Libertadores Cup holders?

3 Who managed Brazil in their recent friendly with Wales?

To enter, simply write your three answers on a postcard along with your name and address and send it to us. Closing date for the competition is October 20, 1991.

Send your entry to: WORLD SOCCER, South American Competition, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS, UK

All usual WORLD SOCCER competition rules apply. The Editor's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

BRIAN HOMEWOOD IN RIO

Teixeira could teach Soviet plotters a lesson

IF the Soviet hardliners who tried to oust Mikhail Gorbachev want to know how to organise a coup properly, maybe they should ask CBF president Ricardo Teixeira.

Joao Havelange's son-in-law found a masterly way of getting round the democratic reforms Zico has attempted to bring into the CBF, managing to ensure that he will be in the presidency until 1996 no matter what the outcome of the so-called Zico project.

The Zico plan, drawn up when he was Sports Minister and sent to the Brazilian Congress in April where it is still being studied, intends to alter the CBF electoral system by giving the clubs the right to vote for the president.

At the moment, only the presidents of the country's 27 regional federations have this right, which means the president can ensure his re-election simply by exchanging favours with these 27. Zico himself said: "At times, it seems that these votes are more bought than won by defending sport."

Teixeira was due to face re-election at the end of his mandate in January 1992. Zico's project, if it gets passed, should be in effect before then. That could have spelt the end for Teixeira who has dedicated his two-and-half years as president almost exclusively to serving his 27 electors.

Teixeira . . . will retain the presidency of the CBF until at least 1996, regardless of the outcome of the so-called "Zico project".

Teixeira, however, came up with a cunning plan....keep his mandate until January but bring the election forward and hold it before Zico's project can get past Congress's innumerable committees and commissions.

That was exactly what he did. In June, the state presidents met and "on their initiative" (nothing to do with Teixeira, apparently) voted to bring the election forward to July when everyone would be concentrating on the Copa America. And while they were about it, they also voted to extend the president's mandate from three to four years.

Result: on July 17 Teixeira was re-elected unopposed in a meeting which was held behind closed doors and lasted just 28 minutes.

The Zico project is still lost in the depths of Congress, so even if it does get passed it will now have to wait until 1996 before it can come into effect.

The Brazilian newspapers took the whole process for what it was and described the supposed re-election as a coup against Zico's project and Brazilian football itself. It was clearly not a genuine election, as anyone who had been in Antonino's restaurant on the eve of it will testify.

There, they would have found Teixeira plus 26 of the 27 electors already celebrating his re-election, tucking into a lavish meal and downing generous doses of imported whisky.

The extravaganza was paid for by the CBF, which also footed the bill for the federation presidents to fly to Rio and back and put them up in a four star hotel. The total cost, according to the Jornal do Brasil, was around the £50,000 mark.

There have been noises that the government are investigating the whole process.

What is clear is that, unethical though it may have been, Teixeira's coup was well-planned and efficiently executed.

It was also just about the only thing he got right since he took over in January 1989.

Involved

Teixeira came from nowhere, having never been involved with football in any capacity or at any level. As Zico said: "he came down on a parachute." Before his election, he lambasted the CBF administration, promised to bring respectability to the organisation, vowed he would run the Brazilian championship on a league basis and said Brazil would have a national team that would "make the others tremble." It all sounded very promising.

The truth turned out to be rather different. After two and a half years in power, Teixeira has sorted out the CBF's finances. Everything else has been an unmitigated disaster.

For example, the CBF made a pig's ear out of organising the 1989 Copa America, held in Brazil. During this tournament came the Charles episode. Teixeira ordered the then Brazil manager Sebastiao Lazaroni to include the then Bahia player in the Brazil squad, to appease the Salvador directors and fans. Lazaroni defied Teixeira and Brazil went on to win the competition, making it impossible to Teixeira to sack Lazaroni.

Three Brazilian championships have taken place under Teixeira. None of them has used the league format.

At the last World cup Brazil produced one of the worst performances in their history, suffering elimination in the second round.

The CBF appointed Falcao to replace Lazaroni, thinking he could be the new Franz Beckenbauer and promising that he would stay in the job at least until January 1992. Falcao, who had absolutely no coaching experience, never seemed comfortable and was sacked in August.

To ensure his re-election, Teixeira promised to create "five regional vice-presidents". One of these vice-presidencies was given to Nabi Chedid, who was vice-president in the CBF before Teixeira.

Another went to Rubens Hoffmeister, who has been president of the Rio Grande do Sul federation for longer than anyone can remember. And as chief of the Brazilian delegation in the Copa America, he chose Fred Oliveira, who two years ago ran onto the pitch during a Brazilian championship match involving his beloved Sport Recife to threaten the referee following a controversial decision.

Installed

At the press conference following his re-election, Teixeira was happy to rabbit on about how he had a list proving that nearly all the clubs would have voted for him anyway.

Asked about the national team and Falcao, he would say only: "Falcao IS the manager of the Brazil national team." And his plans until 1996: "I'm not talking about this until January."

What many people believe is that Teixeira's ultimate aim is to be installed as Havelange's replacement, once the old water polo player decides to call it a day. You have been warned.

STARS FLY OFF - AND SO DO THE FANS

BRAZIL'S players want to go to Europe and the country's clubs need to sell them to make ends meet.

It is not difficult to see why Brazilian clubs are hard up.

In the first full round of matches for the Rio de Janeiro championship, the biggest crowd of the day was at the Volta Redonda match where just over 6,000 people turned up.

Flamengo, the country's best-supported club, are so hard-up they can't afford to buy sufficient equipment for their players to train with. Manager Vanderlei Luxemburgo said as much after his team struggled to draw with the modest part-timers of Itaperuna in the Rio championship and was promptly sacked for doing so.

Called

The club's directors even admitted Luxemburgo was correct. They just could not stomach him telling everyone.

In Sao Paulo, less than a month of the competition had passed before Tele Santana called for the abolition of the state championships and their replacement with a national league.

You can't blame him. Sao Paulo play in the magnificent 150,000 capacity Morumbi stadium, yet after eight state championship matches, they had been watched by an average of 4,571 people. Better than Catanduvense, with their 1,022 average, but not what the Brazilian champions might expect.

Sao Paulo vice-president Fernando Casal de Rey told World Soccer that the club spends 120,000 dollars a month to put the team on the field, yet in a state championship is lucky to collect more than 50,000 dollars in gate receipts. "Most of our income is not directly from football but from the advertising on shirts, the sale of television rights and excursions abroad," says Casal de Rey.

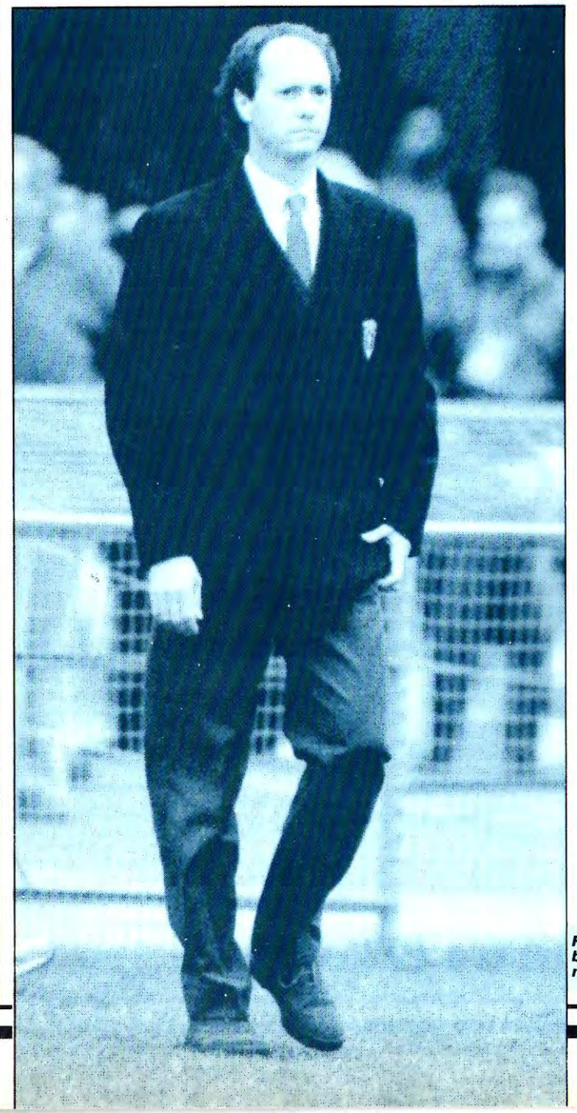
"At the moment we have the structure to be able to survive without selling players abroad — but I think we are unique in Brazil in this respect."

Casal de Rey and Santana are both against the state championship in its current format and want it replaced with a national league.

The Sao Paulo federation have insisted on putting 28 teams into a competition that runs only from July to early December which means all clubs face two games a week, week in, week out. Result: too tiring for the players, the supporters get bored with so many matches which they can't afford to watch anyway and half the teams are completely out of their depth.

Opposed

The national league, as we've mentioned before, is not likely to happen. That is because the state federations, who, incidentally, are not half as badly off as the clubs, are opposed and that means no votes for the CBF president.



FRIED FALCAO!

BRAZIL faced Wales in Cardiff under the caretaker leadership of Ernesto Paulo after Paulo Roberto Falcao was unceremoniously dumped after just one year and four days in charge.

All the initial talk about long term policies aimed at changing the structure of Brazilian football went down the drain as the CBF's directors let their traditional impatience get the better of them.

Falcao's future had been under constant speculation since the uninspiring Copa America performance in July. Eventually, he was the victim of a process commonly used in Brazilian politics known as "fritura" or frying.

In politics, the process involves forcing the minister or state company president to resign by making his life unbearable.

That is exactly what the CBF did to Falcao. First, they refused to renew the contracts of his physiotherapist Gilberto Tim and press spokesman Vital Bataglia and told him they would choose the replacements. Then they demanded that all Falcao's squads be handed to and approved by the CBF 72 hours before being made public.

As any self-respecting manager would have done, Falcao refused. He was promptly sacked and was informed of the CBF's decision by telephone.

"There were certain resistances and we decided it would be better to opt for a new manager," said CBF director Jorge Salgado.

Falcao said that it was the second demand he refused to give into — "I respect it but I don't agree."

Falcao . . . was forced to resign because his position as manager was made unbearable by the CBF.

Ever since he took over, Falcao was under constant criticism. In his first games, when the CBF, still smarting from the World Cup effort, banned him from calling up European players, he was under fire for picking unknowns such as Paulo Egidio, Dener and Adilson.

In the Copa America, with the ban lifted, he was criticised for the team's poor tactics. Brazil finished second thanks, basically, to determination and fighting spirit.

But Brazilians want more than just that from their national team.

Falcao's final record: played 15, won 5, drawn 7, lost 3.

Selected

Falcao's Mr Nice Guy image was not matched by his teams on the pitch. Five were sent off when Brazil lost 3-2 to Argentina in the Copa America and the Brazilians gave at least as good as they got.

Falcao was selected simply in the belief that he was the new Beckenbauer. In his first match in charge against Spain, he even stood on the touchline in the traditional Beckenbauer stance.

As Falcao found out, managing the Brazil team is a guaranteed way of smashing your reputation. Sebastiao Lazaroni had to slip out of a back exit at Rio airport and then lock himself in his flat for six days after Brazil's elimination from the World Cup.

Tele Santana had his flat stoned after Brazil were knocked out in 1982. Evaristo Macedo needed police protection at Rio airport to protect him.

Yet the CBF always seem to find someone else willing to have a go.

CONTINUED OVER

TV ROW BRINGS ARGENTINA TO A HALT

A DISPUTE over televising of matches held up the start of the Argentine national championship's 1991-92 season which should have begun on August 25.

One channel had the rights to televise matches on Sundays, but then the AFA negotiated with another company to bring one of the important matches forward to Friday evening for television every week.

Naturally the dispute evolved in a court case and the judge's immediate decision was not to allow the Friday night televised game.

The ugly inference is that FA officials — and everything tends to be done through president Julio Grondona — were involved in the double dealing, especially as there was no court order to hold up the championship, but the AFA cancelled it rather than cancel what appeared to be an illegal TV contract.

Meanwhile, San Lorenzo won a tournament — which lasted for most of the close season — to qualify for next year's Libertadores Cup together with champions Newell's Old Boys.

In the two-legged final, San Lorenzo beat Boca Juniors 1-0 in both matches so the latter, winners of last season's second round while also reaching the semi-final of the Libertadores Cup (regularly playing two matches a week for weeks) finished up with no honours...unless you count the 1.3 million dollars they made in gate receipts (700,000 dollars in the Libertadores Cup and 600,000 in league games).

These were net profits before the above mentioned cup play-offs. Nice going for a club which has been in the financial doldrums for years and is still in the hands of creditors and it does not count incoming transfer fees for Gabriel Batistuta and Diego Latorre who went to Italy's Fiorentina.

PERU

CHAMPIONS Universitario de Deportes, Sporting Cristal, Melgar FC and Sport Boys were engaged in the final round of the Regional Championship (held by the last mentioned) which gives the winners a place in next year's Libertadores Cup.

PARAGUAY

OLIMPIA won the first round of the first division with one game to go to qualify for the final round title play-off with one bonus point together with newly-promoted Cerro Cora, Atletico Colegiales and Sportivo Luqueno who eventually took the next three places in the table and take 3/4, 1/2 and a 1/4 bonus point into the final round.

Defending champions, Cerro Porteno finished level on points with Sportivo Luqueno and two other clubs, but were squeezed out on goal difference and their Uruguayan coach, Sergio Markarian resigned. He was replaced by Brazilian Paulo Cesar Carpegiani who played and coached Flamengo when they won the Libertadores Cup in 1981 for the only time.

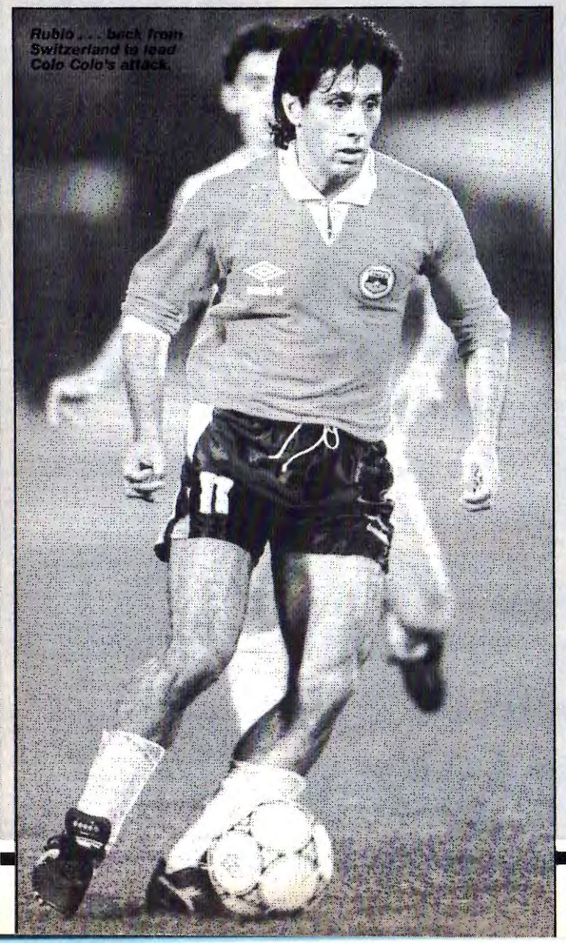
CHILE

Antofagasta, the third team promoted to the first division this season only because Naval withdrew, went through their first 11 games undefeated before losing 3-0 to Universidad Catolica who trailed leaders Coquimbo Unido, another newly-promoted team, by a point.

In their first 11 games, Antofagasta, with former international goalkeeper Marcos Cornez, had let through only three goals.

Defending champions, Colo Colo, who had cancelled several of their early matches while engaged in winning the Libertadores Cup, had only one in hand at press time and still trailed leaders Coquimbo by four points. Colo Colo line up international striker Hugo Rubio, back from Switzerland.

At Universidad de Chile, one of Chile's most popular clubs which has not been able to get away from the lower half of the table, Pedro Morales (a former national team coach) resigned and was replaced by lower division coach, Alberto Quintano, the former international defender.



Rubio . . . back from Switzerland to lead Colo Colo's attack.

Company . . . new boss of Deportivo Cali.

COLOMBIA

IN the aftermath of the Copa America, the Colombian season re-started with the usual mix of coaching casualties and limited player movement.

While lowly Tolima have already employed three coaches during 1991, the chief victim of the coaching front has been Jorge Luis Pinto at Deportivo Cali, who are in financial trouble and stuck in the lower half of the table.

Pinto became surplus to the club's requirements after a disappointing start to the season on the pitch, and plenty of bickering (none of it directly involving Cali) off it.

The new man at the helm is Miguel Company, Peru's coach at the recent Copa America. Company, 46, had previously been coach to the Sport Boys club of Lima and will be the sixteenth different man in charge since Cali last won a title in 1974.

Previous incumbents have included Carlos Bilardo and Oscar Tabarez, coaches to Argentina and Uruguay respectively at the last World Cup.

On the playing front, a mass exodus of internationals to Europe, Argentina style, has failed to materialise. Cali midfielder Bernardo Redin is likely to sign for CSKA Sofia, having spent a four month period on loan with the Bulgarian club, but the only major departure has been that of international goalkeeper Rene Higuita to Valladolid.

Higuita now joins the growing Colombian enclave in that part of Spain as the Spanish side have fellow internationals Carlos Valderrama and Leonel Alvarez in midfield and coaches Maturana and Barragan on the bench.

Despite his misfortune at the hands of Roger Milla in Italy last year — and bouts of inconsistent form since — Higuita's prestige and popularity have remained high, especially in Medellin and both club and player were unwilling to part company.

However Nacional have endured a hefty cash shortfall recently, caused by two expensive Copa Libertadores campaigns (the 1991 version played entirely away from home) which ended in semi-final defeats plus a general downturn in the Colombian economy and the Medellin club's thirty strong professional staff.

This in turn meant the departure of the club's most saleable assets, firstly Leonel Alvarez and then Higuita. The offbeat goalkeeper, who turned 25 four days before the start of the Spanish season, was expected to sign a three year contract with Valladolid.

Millonarios, of Bogota, top the overall standings from which the top eight go into a final round.

Martelotto . . . one of 18 Argentines in the Mexican First Division.

CENTRAL AMERICA

GUATEMALA:

●Comunicaciones won the Guatemala Cup, a tournament in which the first division teams were divided into two groups with the top two of each qualifying for semi-finals and the novelty that every match had to have a winner, draws being decided by penalty shoot-outs.

Comunicaciones won their group on goal difference over Del Monte, then disposed of Municipal 2-1 in the semi-final and Juventud Retalteca 2-0 in the final.

COSTA RICA:

●The Costa Rican championship had three games to go before the top six qualify for a final round and the top four are already assured of a place — Alajuelense 60 points, Puntarenas 58, Saprissa (defending champions with a game in hand) and Uruguay 48.

MEXICO:

●The first division began its 1991-2 season with a feast for the fans — 39 goals in 10 cup matches and no draws — and 54 foreign players in the 20 clubs. The number may well increase as there were several other transfers in the pipeline. Four foreign players per team are allowed.

Included

The 54 included 18 Argentines, 13 Brazilians, eight Chileans, seven Uruguayans, five from Honduras and one each from Paraguay, Panama and Ecuador and the group included internationals such as Argentina's German Martelotto, Uruguay's Santiago Ostolaza and Chile's Ivo Basay.

Twelve of the 20 clubs were under foreign coaches — six Argentines, three Uruguayans, two Chileans and one Brazilian.

NO STOPPING THE AMERICANS

THE United States continued to grow in stature on the soccer scene by adding the Pan American Games title to the CONCACAF Gold Cup played a few weeks earlier.

True, no South American country participated in Cuba, but it was still a surprise for their Latin American neighbours.

The US won their group against Honduras, Surinam and Canada, then beat Cuba — who had prepared for the tournament playing against first division sides in Italy for a month — 2-1 in the semi-final and Mexico by the same score in the final.

Mexico, fielding players between 18 and 22 and none who had taken part in the Gold Cup, had been the favourites in this tournament with a 23-year age limit. They were watched by their new national team coach, Argentine Cesar Menotti who had been signed up just as the tournament started, but was only in Cuba as a spectator.

Allocated

The absence of South American teams was recommended by the South American Soccer Confederation after the area had been allocated only five of the 12 places. Actually only eight teams took part and South American teams gave the excuse of high expenses for their absence.

Pan Am officials played it down saying that they invite everybody and those who want to come do so

They did not take the South American absence as a boycott, but admitted the matter would be discussed at their next meeting. In fact, there are those who want to take soccer out of the Pan Am programme, but this will meet with stiff opposition from the 1995 hosts, Mar del Plata (Argentina), where soccer is expected to be the biggest drawing card.

Another feather in the US's cap has been in winning the third round group C of the CONCACAF Olympic qualifying tournament.

Meanwhile, the US and Mexico have been invited as guests to the next South American Championships in 1993 for which the venue has yet to be picked, but Honduras have complained bitterly.

The original idea was to invite the top two in the Gold Cup, the US and Honduras.

Honduran state President, Rafael Callejas, has joined the argument. A soccer fanatic, he accused CONCACAF officials of putting financial considerations before sporting ones.

BRAZIL

The state championships are in progress in Brazil with the most important in Rio and Sao Paulo.

In the former two divisions of 12 clubs each were formed by arbitrary means, the big clubs (with the biggest drawing power) going into the first division and the others into the second.

The Rio tournament is being played in two rounds with the winner of the first round taking the Guanabara Cup and a place in the title play-off against the winner of the second round. There is also promotion and relegation of two clubs between the two divisions after each round.

At press time, Vasco da Gama were four-point leaders with champions Botafogo near the bottom of the table. Also near the bottom were Fluminense, now coached by former international Edinho, and Flamengo.

Flamengo were involved in an incident-packed match with America (Rio) in which players of the latter team attacked the referee five minutes from the end with the score 3-3 when he awarded Flamengo a penalty.

Referee Jorge Emiliano was pushed to the ground and needed police protection after the game.

Edinho . . . Fluminense coach.

BY ERIC WEIL

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Boca 'TWINS' split by their Italian job

GABRIEL BATISTUTA and Diego Latorre were the most talked about players and the most lethal goal-scoring partnership (for Boca Juniors) in Argentina last season.

Now they have both ended up under contract to Fiorentina, but while Batistuta is now playing for the Italian club, Latorre has been loaned back to Boca Juniors for a year in one of the most bizarre transfer deals yet.

But money apart, Fiorentina — or their Brazilian coach, Sebastiao Lazaroni — may be wrong in not playing them together and reforming that partnership that was the main factor in Boca Juniors winning the second round of last season's Argentine national championship unbeaten and reaching the semifinals of the Libertadores Cup.

Both players are 22. Batistuta is the older by six months, but Latorre "arrived" on the soccer scene just before and they are quite different in background.

Batistuta, born in Reconquista, in the province of Santa Fe, was playing for his local league's representative side in the provincial final when he was 18.

The match took place at the Newell's Old Boys stadium in Rosario and his team lost 5-1, but the Newell's club's lower division coach, Jorge Bernardo Griffa — famous for his keen eye for prospective players and the man who continually supplies the first team with outstanding stars — asked him to come to the club.

Batistuta loved soccer, but never thought of taking it up seriously. He was in his last year at high school and intended to study medicine.

But now he didn't give it a second thought.

He moved to Rosario and never finished school, but he did take his childhood sweetheart, Irina — two years younger — with him and they married before his career even got off the ground.

Today they are expecting their first child. The only differences they had, and still have, is that he is a Boca Juniors fan and she likes River Plate, Argentina's other popular club.

Batistuta says he is not afraid of anything, but his rapid rise to the top even took him by surprise.

After 18 months at Newell's he made his first division debut in 1989.

Players agent Settimo Aloisio bought his contract and he ended up at River Plate where he failed to reproduce his good form and goals.

Argentina's dynamic duo, Batistuta and Latorre

Private

Then came the move to Boca Juniors last year and fame was just around the corner.

Latorre comes from an unusual background for Argentine professional soccer players — from a well-to-do family. Born in Buenos Aires, a stone's throw from the Argentinos Juniors stadium where another famous Diego (Maradona) made his first division debut a few years later, he was not spotted playing on a vacant lot like his famous namesake, but at a country club where his family had a week-end house.

Latorre went to a private school and then to private university to study economic science for two years and he speaks good English.

A Boca Juniors scout spotted him at 14.

Latorre gave up university later — temporarily, he says — to concentrate on soccer, but it was really because he had always been a Boca Juniors fan and liked soccer rather than for the money. He had never been short of it.

By last year — after four years as a pro — he was in the first team and doing well and soccer agent Aloisio also bought half his contract. But it was the link-up with Batistuta this year which really propelled both to the top.

In the 19-game second round of the championship Batistuta finished up as championship top scorer with 11 goals while Latorre was close behind with nine — a total of 20 of the 32 scored by the team, and in the Libertadores Cup they made and scored most of the goals too.

But goals — often making the transfer value and popularity of players — tell only half the story.

Latorre soon became known as Argentina's "New Diego".

Slightly taller and slimmer than his namesake, his ball control, shooting and passing look just as good except that he is more easily tackled. Like Maradona, Latorre is an attacking midfielder and a cool one too.

Batistuta's name was soon associated by the fans with Batman because he did such incredible things. When he scores, even the radio commentators call it a "Bati-goal". The name has become famous in Argentina. Batistuta is very fast, opportune and has a strong, accurate shot.

But it was the one-two's and pin-point, defence splitting passing which made the headlines.

It was only natural that both players would catch the eye of national team selectors and Italian clubs. It was Latorre first again.

Aloisio found several Italian clubs who were interested in the player and finally Fiorentina tied up a deal. But there were differences between agents and the case went to court which held up the move.

It is difficult to unravel the truth, but it appears Boca Juniors received two million dollars for the player and Aloisio took the same amount. The case is still in court with fans also taking the club to task for doing such bad business.

Playing

Latorre was picked by new national team coach Alfio Basile when the squad began training early this year and made his national team debut in the 2-0 victory over Hungary in February.

But after one more friendly international, Boca Juniors would not release him or Batistuta while they were playing two matches a week to defend their championship lead and in the Libertadores Cup.

Whether it was the long drawn-out transfer negotiations for Latorre's move to Fiorentina or Boca Juniors' strength-sapping schedule we shall never know, but Latorre lost form late in the season. Meanwhile, Aloisio had also arranged Batistuta's transfer to Fiorentina.

It was believed that Latorre would play for the Italian club and Batistuta would be loaned out.

Both players were added to Argentina's squad just before the South American Championship when their club released them. Latorre had a poor opening game and was dropped, only to reappear again in the match against Peru when already-qualified Argentina fielded a reserve team.

He might have been given another chance in the final round, but had taken medicine for flu which contained a banned drug and was dropped.

Batistuta, on the other hand — making his international debut - immediately made his mark and finished as the tournament's top scorer. Fiorentina, with room for one more foreigner, changed their mind and insisted on Batistuta joining them immediately.

Fiorentina are reported to have said that the "Batistuta operation" cost them 9.2 million dollars. Boca Juniors received 1.5 million dollars for the player plus the loan for a year of Latorre (whose salary is apparently being paid by the Italian club) plus international striker Antonio Mohamed who somehow became mixed up in the deal through Aloisio and ended up as Fiorentina's property.

Were Fiorentina wrong in not keeping the Batistuta-Latorre partnership intact? Only time will tell.

ERIC WEIL WS

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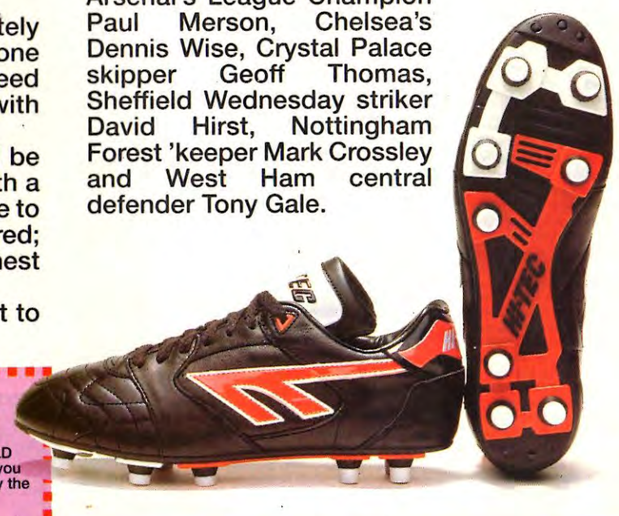

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Asia

Japanese eyes on 2002

PLANS are racing ahead for the start of Japan's first professional league in 1993 (now to be called the J League) and there has been a spate of big-name "foreign" signings recently.

An official committee has been set up to push Japan's candidacy for the 2002 World Cup and even the national team started getting favourable results, reinforced by Kazuyoshi Miura, now back from Santos, and the naturalisation of Yomiuri midfielder Ramos Ruy.

First, the signings, starting with Sumitomo Metal's capture of veteran Brazilian midfielder Zico. Although Sumitomo are currently in the Second Division, they have been chosen as one of the founding teams for the new professional league.

Mitsubishi Motors have secured the services of two Argentinians - Osvaldo "Pichi" Escudero and Carlos "Pato" MacAllister.

Yomiuri, the reigning champions, will now be managed by "Pepe", while Fujita have signed "Pita", both from Brazil.

Japan's victorious side at the 1991 Kirin Cup Tournament.

Toshiba have recruited 33-year old Uruguayan World Cup defender Hugo De Leon, and Honda have signed Douglas Pimenta Fonseca from EC XV Novembro/Piracicaba of Sao Paulo.

Meanwhile, Mazda have turned to Europe for their imports, signing the Czechoslovakian duo Juri Kabyl and Julius Bielik - who was a member of the Czechoslovakian World Cup squad last year in Italy.

Chaired

The World Cup 2002 Candidate Committee has been established and is chaired by Takashi Ishihara, the former president of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives and now chairman of the Nissan Motor Company Limited.

Franz Beckenbauer attended the launching in Tokyo and spoke of the magnitude of the World Cup, with a worldwide audience of 28 billion. These are the sort of statements which make Japanese businessmen take note, and if Japan is to secure the 2002 World Cup, it will need the backing of these people.

The results on the pitch have been encouraging. The national team won a clean sweep in the invitational Kirin Cup tournament, beating Thailand 1-0, Brazil's Vasco da Gama 2-1 and then crushing FA Cup winners Tottenham 4-0 on the final day. That was Japan's first victory in any international tournament.

A Shizuoka select team, including many national team regulars, defeated a Brazilian Select Masters XI 1-0 with a goal by Takeda. The Brazilian team, including Socrates, Eder and Leao, were dangerously close to becoming a "Past Masters" team.

Then Japan had two close tussles with Partizan Belgrade, who finished third in the Yugoslavian League last season. Both matches were keenly contested, with both sides giving away as little as possible.

The first game, in which Partizan fielded three of their five internationals - Stanojkovic, Mijatovic and Djukic - ended in a 1-1 draw with both goals coming from corners. Vujacic headed home a Visjnic corner for the visitors, Hashiradani equalising for the home side from a curling Miura corner.

In the second game, Partizan fielded all five of their internationals with Omerovic and Brnovic added to the side, and won 1-0 with a fine Mijatovich goal after good approach work by Brnovic, Bogdanovich and Mijatovich.

Praised

In both games, the Japanese used a well-drilled offside trap to thwart the Yugoslavs, while up front Kitazawa, Miura and Nagashima were lively.

Ivica Osim, Partizan's manager, praised The Japanese team afterwards saying: "The games were close and the second could easily have ended 1-0 the other way."

On the plus side, the Japanese were extremely quick and strong both mentally and physically.

As for the negative side, Osim likened Japan's offside trap to the strategy of Kamikaze pilots — it worked well but might not be so effective against a team more accustomed to it than Partizan Belgrade.

Encouraging though, and Japan look like they might be worth keeping an eye on. After all, there are still 11 years to go.

MIKE PLASTOW

ASIAN POLICE PLAYERS THREATEN REF

REFEREEING standards must be improved in Asia, following FIFA criticism of the generally low level of performance by officials.

Peter Vellapan, secretary-general of the Asian Football Confederation has been urging national associations to set up committees to look into ways of improving standards.

The suggestion is that in future the majority of referees should be under 45, have played at a high level, or been school football coaches.

Malaysia, where soccer is making such rapid strides, is a good — or bad — example of the problems referees can come up against.

In a recent game, referee Kamaruddin Shakri had to be escorted from the pitch after the losers and their supporters surrounded him in a threatening manner. Not a totally unusual scene of course, but ironic in this case...the side involved were the Malaysian Police.

The use of over-aged players in youth competitions is another problem Asia faces, and one that probably will grow worse as such tournaments increase in importance.

In addition to the Asian under-16 and under-19 competitions there is now an age limit on the Olympics and talk of turning the Asian Games event into an under-21 competition.

The use of over-age players might indeed be one factor in a series of particularly heavy scores in regional youth matches. As a result the qualifying round of Asian youth competitions will now be fought in two stages.

Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, the Philippines, Vietnam and Guam will play in a special group, with only the winners joining Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia in the main qualifying event.

BOB PATEMAN

CHINA'S OLYMPIANS 'WILL SET THE THAMES ON FIRE'

FLAMBOYANT German coach Rudi Gutendorf took little time to formulate his opinions on the state of Chinese soccer.

A mere two weeks after arriving in the country to take charge of China's Olympic selection, Gutendorf made the following comments during an interview published in the local magazine Football World:

On the differences between German and Chinese players: "Basically, there is little difference. Chinese players are equally disciplined; just as eager to advance and attain high fitness levels as German players."

On the lack of good coaches in China: "China has always had many promising young players. Unfortunately, very few have realised their potential due to the lack of good quality coaches here."

On the handicaps imposed upon soccer by China's socialist society: "In Germany, a capitalist country, top players can earn enormous sums.

But, because of China's socialist system, things here are very different.

"Players need financial incentives and, to get the best out of China's representatives, your government must permit appropriate rewards for outstanding achievements."

On the prospects of the Chinese Olympic team: "I have great faith in the team.

"I'll not only send them to Barcelona but once there, we'll set the Thames on fire!" (Presumably he meant the Mediterranean).

Since the interview, the CFA have heeded some of Gutendorf's advice. Recently they announced a sponsorship deal with Hong Kong businessman Tsang Hing-Chi under which members of the Olympic squad would receive approximately US $1,900 a year each.

PAUL MOON

ESTEGHLAL ARE ASIAN CHAMPIONS

ESTEGHLAL of Iran won the tenth Asian Club soccer Championship held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, between eight clubs.

In the final, Esteghlal beat the holders, Liaoning of China, 2-1, and so took the trophy for the second time. The previous success was in 1970, under the club's former name, Taj.

The championship began in 1967, as the Asian Champions' Cup, and ran for four years. After various political difficulties had been resolved, it was revived in 1985.

Two groups of four clubs were named to compete in the 11-day tournament. Lianoning topped group "A" with Pelita Jaya of Indonesia in second place, and Esteghlal were first in group "B" followed by April 25 of North Korea.

Al Nasr of Oman also took part in the first group, but Ramtha of Jordan withdrew after qualifying, leaving the section one team short, and face a fine and a ban from future tournaments.

Bangkok Bank of Thailand, the host club and Mohemmedan Sporting of Dhaka, made up the second section.

G.C. DAS

GROUP A: Pelita Jaya 3 Al Nasr 0, Liaoning 1 Al Nasr 1, Liaoning 1 Pelita Jaya 0.
GROUP B: Mohammedan Sporting 1 Bangkok Bank 1, Esteghlal 2 April 25 1, Esteghlal 2 Bangkok Bank 0, Mohammedan Sporting 0 April 25 0, April 25 1 Bangkok Bank 0, Esteghlal 0 Mohammedan Sporting 0.
Semi-finals: Esteghlal 2 Pelita Jaya 0, Liaoning 3 April 25 0.
Third place: April 25 2 Pelita Jaya 2 (April 25 won 7-6 on penalties).
Final: Esteghlal 2 Liaoning 1.
Leading scorers: Sun Wei (Liaoning) 4, Abdel Samed Marfavi (Esteghlal) 3.

Previous Winners:

Year	Champion	Runners-up
1967	Hapoel Tel Aviv (Isr)	Selangor (Malay)
1968	Maccabi (Isr)	Yan Zec (SK)
1970	Taj (Iran)	Hapoel Tel Aviv (Isr)
1971	Maccabi (Isr)	Iraq Police (Iraq)
1985	Daewoo Roys (SK)	Al-Ahli (S Arabia)
1986	Furukawa (Japan)	Al-Hilal (S Arabia)
1987	Yomiuri (Japan)	Al-Hilal (S Arabia)
1988	Al-Saad (Qatar)	Al-Rasheed (Iraq)
1989	Liaoning (China)	Nissan (Japan)
1990	Esteghlal (Iran)	Liaoning (China)

● FIJI:
Nadroga confirmed themselves as the major power in contemporary Fijian soccer with victory at the 1991 Battle of the Giants tournament in Nausori — their seventh major domestic title in just over three years.

In a repeat of 1988's Inter Districts Championship decider, the Coral Coast Stallions defeated Nasinu in the final.

Three years ago, a goal in extra time decided the issue and this time it was even tighter.

Neither team could manage a goal during normal time (no extra time was played) and Nadroga's experience only came to the fore in a penalty shoot-out, which they won 4-3.

● THAILAND:
Farmers' Bank caused a surprise by winning Thailand's National Division A Tournament, staged at Bangkok's National Stadium.

An 18th-minute goal by Voravuth Srimaka was sufficient to sink highly-fancied Royal Thai Air Force in the semi-finals, and Srimaka struck twice again in the second half of the final.

A goal by Prapas Chamrasamee had given favourites Port Authority an interval lead.

Vichet Kongmak's 77th-minute strike completed a 3-1 victory for Farmer's Bank.

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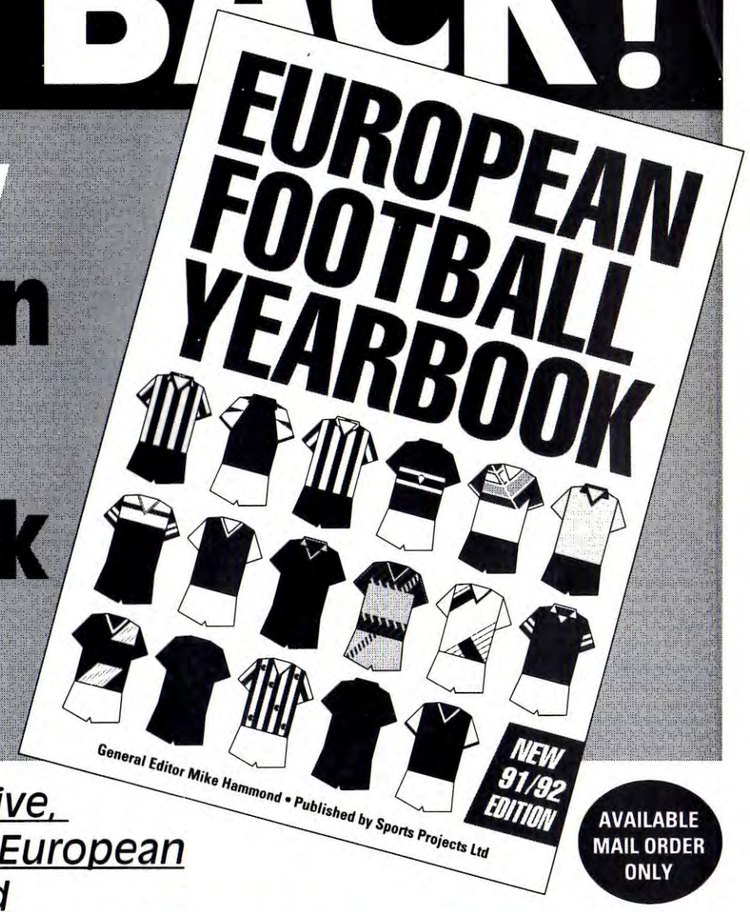

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diary

World Soccer's news service conducted by **KEIR RADNEDGE**

THURSDAY, JULY 25

SPAIN: Juan Esnaider, highly-rated but hot-tempered Argentinian teenager, is relegated by Real Madrid to play the coming season for their affiliated second division team.

SWEDEN: Veteran international referee Erik Fredriksson has to call a temporary halt to the league game between Norrkoping and AIK after a tear gas grenade is thrown onto the pitch. The game ends in a 1-1 draw.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA back down from a European legal showdown with Dutch club Den Bosch. The control and discipline committee approve Den Bosch's appeal against a three-year ban from European club competitions. This had been imposed as punishment for the club's recourse to civil law in the row over their crowd-interrupted Dutch cup final against Feyenoord ... the Swiss championship opens with a 4-0 thrashing by champions Grasshoppers at the hands of Aarau.

FRIDAY, JULY 26

ACTION: Egypt qualify for next year's African Nations finals in Senegal after a 2-2 draw at home to Tunisia.

ARGENTINA: Argentina's South American heroes are already on the move. Goalkeeper Sergio Goycochea is sold by Racing to French second division club Brest, Boca striker Gabriel Batistuta is sold to Fiorentina for £2.5million and midfielder Leo Rodriguez (San Lorenzo) agrees terms to transfer to Marseille.

BRAZIL: Eight fans are arrested and five buses and two lorries are destroyed when fighting breaks out between fans of Corinthians and Palmeiras after the league game between Piricicaba and Botafogo RP.

DENMARK: OB agree to pay a cut-price £250,000 for Luton's want-away Denmark striker Lars Elstrup.

FRANCE: Marseille make a £5.5million offer for Rangers' England midfielder Trevor Steven.

MEXICO: Cesar Luis Menotti, Argentina's 1978 World Cup-winning manager and most recently dismissed by Uruguayan club Penarol, accepts a £1million three-year contract to take over as national manager of Mexico.

SPAIN: Real Madrid coach Radomir Antic confirms that Brazil centre back Ricardo Rocha is on the point of transferring from Sao Paulo.

SATURDAY, JULY 27

ACTION: Nigeria thrash Burkina Faso 7-1 in the African Nations' qualifiers ... FK Austria beat Austria Salzburg 3-2 in league action in Vienna ... Georges Weah scores twice as Monaco defeat Nancy 4-1 in France ... Grasshoppers bounce back from their bad start by defeating St Gallen 5-0 in Switzerland.

SPAIN: Real Sociedad sell former Everton and Arsenal midfielder Kevin Richardson home to Aston Villa.

SWEDEN: Champions IFK Gothenburg agree the sale of top striker Kennet Andersson to Belgian club Mechelen. To replace him, IFK line up Cannes' World Cup striker Johnny Ekstrom.

YUGOSLAVIA: The federation's annual meeting decides that the league championship will start next Saturday (August 3) as planned, despite the civil unrest. In other discussions, the federation cannot agree on a proposal by the Serbian federation that all players should be free at the end of their contracts. This effectively keeps the Prosinecki transfer on ice.

SUNDAY, JULY 28

ACTION: The last round of qualifying matches takes place in the African Nations' qualifiers. The end result is that, joining hosts Senegal and Egypt in the finals next January, will be Cameroon, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Morocco, Zambia, Zaire and Kenya.

MONDAY, JULY 29

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona is to restart training, with one of his old clubs, Boca Juniors. In his first interview since his double drugs charges, Maradona says: "I want to enjoy spending the remaining time of my 15-month suspension with my wife and children."

BRAZIL: Real Madrid and Sao Paulo formally complete details of Ricardo's £1.2million transfer.

UNITED STATES: Bill Nuttall, one-time Miami Toros goalkeeper then assistant coach and playing personnel director with Fort Lauderdale Strikers, is appointed overall general manager of the national teams.

TUESDAY, JULY 30

BELGIUM: Elio Di Rupo, a Belgian member of the European parliament, calls on the European Commission to ban municipal subsidy of French football clubs — "because this is distorting competition and sending transfer fees sky-high across Europe."

ENGLAND: The FA announces that random dope checks are to be stepped up. A list of 500 banned substances is circulated among clubs with a warning that players found contravening the directive risk suspension, if caught ... a painting of Bobby Charlton is unveiled in the National Portrait Gallery, 25 years to the day since England won the 1966 World Cup. The FA do nothing to mark the anniversary.

SOUTH AFRICA: Geoff Butler, one-time Notts County defender, is appointed national manager. Butler, with coaching experience in Zambia, Egypt, Kenya and Cyprus, is team boss of Iwiza Kaizer Chiefs.

YUGOSLAVIA: The federation turns down a request from the Slovene and Croatian republics to delay the league championship, due to start on Saturday. Zorislav Srebric, director of HASK-Gradjanski (ex-Dinamo) Zagreb, says: "With people being killed every day in our streets we cannot accept the idea of playing soccer at the moment."

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona says he will play in a charity match, being organised by the players' and actors' unions to raise money for the family of an actor recently killed in a car crash.

ENGLAND: The FA win the High Court case brought by the League and which challenged their authority to set up a Premier League.

FRANCE: Chris Waddle, in an interview with L'Equipe, says he will be ready to listen to offers from elsewhere if Marseille decide they are ready to sell him. Speculation has increased since the signing of Leo Rodriguez. Later in the day Waddle is booked as Marseille beat Metz 2-0 in a full league programme.

GERMANY: Kaiserslautern defeat Hansa Rostock 2-1 in an all-German Supercup semi-final ... Borussia Dortmund buy Bayer Leverkusen's transfer-listed international defender Knut Reinhardt for £800,000.

HUNGARY: Laszlo Racz, once known as Soviet international Vasily Rats, restarts training with his Hungarian club Ferencvaros five months after being sidelined by a mystery virus.

UNITED STATES: The US and one other CONCACAF nation, almost certainly Mexico, will take part in the 1993 South American championship ... American Airlines are confirmed formally as a USSF sponsor and supplier ... USSF president Allan Rothenberg admits that a national championship may not now be in place until 1995, that is, after the next World Cup.

YUGOSLAVIA: HASK-Gradjanski decide midfielder Zvonimir Boban can move to Milan for £1.2million after all, despite being under-age. Director Zorislav Srebric says: "We need the money and we have no idea when, where or how our club will be able to play football again." But national federation officials claim ultimate authority on whether Boban should be sold abroad ... all 26 Croatian league clubs vote to boycott the imminent championship "because of the increased escalation of conflicts in the republic and taking into account the security of fans and players." Hajduk Split, one of the 26, risk losing their Cup-winners' Cup entry (they had been drawn against Tottenham or Stockerau in the first round).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 1

ENGLAND: Reports from Rome claim Paul Gascoigne has just signed a six-year contract with Lazio worth £500,000-a-year ... Liverpool sell Peter Beardsley to neighbours Everton for £1million.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich sign Brazil midfielder Mazinho II from Bragantino for £1.3million.

HOLLAND: An appeal court overturns a previous judgement ordering a replay of the second half of the cup final between Feyenoord and Den Bosch. Feyenoord are thus confirmed as cup winners.

SPAIN: Real Madrid defender Miguel Sanchis defines the priority for the season ahead - "to dethrone Barcelona."... Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff says that his players can share more than £1.7million in bonuses if they win the prizes on offer this coming term.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

MEXICO: FA president Francisco Ibarra confirms that Cesar Luis Menotti will be Mexico's new national coach.

SPAIN: Fears grow over the state of health of coach Luis Aragones, who has been unable to join his Atletico Madrid squad in pre-season training.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA's plans to control TV rights to the mini-league stage of the Champions' Cup upsets the big clubs.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3

ACTION: In the Makita semi-finals at Highbury, London, Sampdoria thrash West Ham 6-1 while Arsenal beat Panathinaikos 1-0 ... Jean-Pierre Papin's fourth goal in consecutive games brings Marseille a 2-1 French league victory at Rennes ... the German season opens with Hansa Rostock (East German champions) thrashing Nurnberg 4-0 ... Lausanne maintain their 100per cent record in Switzerland by winning 2-0 away to Aarau.

ARGENTINA: Diego Maradona plays his first game for six months in a charity match between actors and former professional players. The match does not come under jurisdiction of FIFA so Maradona is free to play.

AUSTRALIA: National team player Aurelio Vidmar signs for Adelaide City.

GERMANY: Stefan Kuntz of Kaiserslautern is voted Footballer of the Year.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

ACTION: Sampdoria beat Arsenal 3-2 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the final of the Makita tournament at Highbury, London. Panathinaikos defeat West Ham by exactly the same score in the third-place match.

HOLLAND: Soviet midfielder Zigmantovich agrees his move from Minsk to Groningen.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

FRANCE: National manager Michel Platini includes eight Marseille players in his national squad for the friendly against Poland.

GERMANY: Kaiserslautern beat Werder Bremen 4-1 to win the Supercup. The champions' new attacker, Jurgen Degen, scores two.

HOLLAND: Ajax sign 19-year-old Danish midfielder Dan Pedersen from Odense.

SPAIN: Barcelona reject a Paris Saint-Germain bid for Denmark forward Michael Laudrup.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6

PORTUGAL: FC Porto consider a £1million offer from Sevilla for their Bulgaria forward, Emil Kostadinov.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

ARGENTINA: Daniel Ricardo Bochini is appointed new coach of his old club Independiente in succession to Omar Pastoriza.

DENMARK: Brondby sell Denmark goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel to Manchester United for £900,000.

MEXICO: New national boss Cesar Menotti says he hopes to play Real Madrid's Hugo Sanchez in his attack in the 1994 World Cup qualifiers.

SOVIET UNION: Igor Shalimov quits Moscow Spartak to join up with his new team-mates at Italian club Foggia.

YUGOSLAVIA: The federation decides to start the new championship this coming Saturday with five Serbian clubs promoted to take the places in the first division of the withdrawn Croatian clubs — Dinamo Zagreb (now HASK-Gradjanski), Hajduk Split, Osijek, Rijeka and NK Zagreb.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

ACTION: Norway lose their first match in 11 months, 2-1 at home to Sweden in Oslo.

BELGIUM: Brugge beat Anderlecht on penalties after a 3-3 draw in the Supercup.

BOLIVIA: Bolivar appoint Moises Barack as new coach in succession to Juan Eduardo Hohberg.

SPAIN: Hugo Sanchez says he has no wish to make a Mexican national team return for new boss Cesar Menotti ... Oviedo buy Romanian World Cup forward Marius Lacatus from Fiorentina.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

ACTION: Sampdoria stars Toninho Cerezo and Vierchowod are both sent off in the 2-1 defeat by PSV Eindhoven in the first round of the Amsterdam tournament. Ajax beat Fiuminense 3-0 in the other game.

ENGLAND: Liverpool buy Mark Walters from Rangers for £1.2million.

SOVIET UNION: Spartak lose Shmarov to German club Karlsruhe.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

ACTION: In England, Arsenal and Tottenham will share the Charity Shield after drawing 0-0 at Wembley ... in Germany, Hansa Rostock upset the predictions by winning 2-1 away to Bayern — for whom Wohlfarth opens the scoring with the 100th league goal of his career. A total of 294,141 fans watch the opening matches, the highest aggregate in 14 years.

ITALY: Inter midfielder Lothar Matthaus flies to Munich for a specialist's opinion on swelling to the knee on which he underwent close-season surgery.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11

ENGLAND: The FA is reported to be considering withdrawing from the race to bid to host the 1998 World Cup finals, in favour of France — if the French back England's bid to host the 1996 European championship finals.

SPAIN: Zaragoza buy Argentine midfielder Dario Franco just in time to make his debut in a 2-2 draw against Tudelano.

YUGOSLAVIA: Confusion in Belgrade at the start of the championship. Olimpija Ljubljana, the Slovenian team who had refused to withdraw from first division competition, fail to turn up for the opener against Partizan in Belgrade.

MONDAY, AUGUST 12

ITALY: Pietro Paolo Virdis, free-scoring striker with Cagliari, Juventus, Udine and Milan, announces his retirement from playing.

YUGOSLAVIA: Olimpija Ljubljana from Slovenia confirm that they will not, after all, play in the new championship.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 13

ARGENTINA: The AFA confirm that no fewer than 242 Argentine footballers have been tranferred abroad in the past year.

GERMANY: Marseille president Bernard Tapie sells off 45 per cent of his share-holding in sportswear giant adidas. But Tapie still holds a controlling interest.

SPAIN: The federation register Robert Prosinecki as a Real Madrid player despite the ongoing uncertainty over his transfer from Red Star Belgrade.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14

ACTION: Poland crash 5-1 at home in Poznan to France ... the United States beat Mexico 2-1 in the soccer final of the Panamerican Games in Cuba ... Feyenoord beat PSV 1-0 in the Dutch Supercup with a goal from former Dinamo Bucharest forward Marian Damaschin.

SWITZERLAND: FIFA grant a temporary international transfer permit to Robert Prosinecki, allowing him to play for Real Madrid.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15

SCOTLAND: Celtic buy Scotland centre back Gary Gillespie from Liverpool for £925,000.

SPAIN: Roberto Prosinecki scores on his debut but Real Madrid lose 2-1 to FC Porto in the semi-finals of the Trofeo Teresa Herrera in La Coruna.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16

ACTION: Italy lose 1-0 to the United States in opening action from the World Under-17 championship ... La Coruna beat Ajax 1-0 in the second semi-final of the Teresa Herrera.

BRAZIL: Flamengo beat America 5-3 in a league game which is held up for 20 minutes during the second half when America players and directors mob the referee in protest at a penalty award. The referee is knocked to the ground but stands up to send off three America pl ayers.

FRANCE: Marseille buy England midfielder Trevor Steven from Rangers for £5million. The move follows the decision by Torino to reject a £6million Marseille bid for Spain midfielder Rafael Martin Vazquez.

SPAIN: Valladolid buy Colombian goalkeeper Rene Higuita from Atletico Nacional of Medellin ... Gijon take Torino's Yugoslav midfielder, Haris Skoro, on trial.

YUGOSLAVIA: The cup-tie between Tomislav (of Tomislavgrad) and Rad Belgrade is abandoned after 66 minutes when Rad players are bombarded with missiles by the crowd, upset at their team's 4-0 defeat.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

ACTION: The Soviet Olympic team beat the United States 2-1 in Moscow ... in Germany, Bayern Munich crash 4-2 after extra time to second division Homburg in the cup ... Ajax beat Real Madrid 1-0 in the Teresa Herrera third place match. The final sees Porto beat hosts La Coruna thanks to a last-minute goal from Aloisio.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

ACTION: PSV beat Utrecht 2-1 with goals from Ellerman and Kieft on the first day of the new Dutch season ... Jean-Pierre Papin becomes joint top scorer in France as he grabs his sixth goal of the season in Marseille's 3-1 win at Caen ... Benfica open their Portuguese league season with a 1-0 defeat by Boavista.

ITALY: Yugoslav midfielder Dragan Stojkovic is sent off for violent dissent in Verona's pre-season warm-up against Reggiana.

MONDAY, AUGUST 19

ITALY: Torino's Yugoslav midfielder, Haris Skoro, turns down a trial opportunity with Gijon.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 20

ACTION: In the World under-17s, the second round of group matches are completed, confirming quarter-finals places for the United States (1-0 winners over Argentina) and Australia (2-0 winners over Congo) ... in Stockholm, a mini-tournament consisting of 45-minute matches ends in victory for Djurgarden, with Juventus runners-up — despite a 1-0 win over AIK (goal by Casiraghi) in their last game ... Roma beat Benfica 2-0 in a friendly, both goals coming from German internationals - Hassler and Voller.

BRAZIL: Paulo Roberto Falcao is sacked as manager of Brazil in the wake of a row with the CBF following the runners-up place "failure" at the Copa America. Falcao was angry that the CBF had replaced his own appointments to the posts of team physio and press spokesman.

GERMANY: Bayern Munich beat Schalke only 3-2 after letting slip a three-goal lead.

HOLLAND: Feyenoord agree to sell forward Mark Farrington to Brighton for £100,000.

POLAND: Dariusz Kubicki of Legia has his transfer to Aston Villa confirmed after the English authorities grant a work permut. The fee is £250,000. Villa already have three other foreigners in Kent Nielsen (Denmark), Dwight Yorke (Trinidad and Tobago) and Ivo Stas (Czechoslovakia).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

ACTION: International friendlies see Czechoslovakia and Switzerland draw 1-1 in Prague while Poland beat Sweden 2-0 in Gdansk. The US national team crash 4-0 to FC Tirol in Innsbruck ... in Cup-winners' Cup preliminary round first legs, Galway lose 3-0 at home to OB and Stockerau go down 1-0 at home to Tottenham after missing a penalty.

GERMANY: Sports doctor Klaus Steinbach urges action to ban the use of pain-killing injections ... Hansa Rostock lose their first game of the season (3-0 away to Stuttgart) as well as the leadership of the league.

HOLLAND: League leaders Ajax beat Volendam 3-0 despite having Jan Wouters sent off in the 30th minute.

ITALY: David Platt misses a penalty on his competitive debut for Bari in a 0-0 home draw against Empoli in a cup first round first leg tie at home.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22

ACTION: Italy fail to reach the quarter-finals of the World Under-17 championships after being held goalless by Argentina in their last first-round match. Group A qualifiers, instead, are the United States and Argentina. Australia and Qatar go through from Group B, Brazil top Group C followed by Germany while the joint leaders of Group D, Spain and Ghana, go through together after a mutual 1-1 draw.

BELGIUM: Standard Liege agree terms to bring World Cup defender Stephane Demol home from Toulouse.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Inter Bratislava are awarded a 3-0 "a tavolino" victory over Dunajska Streda. Last weekend's league game was halted for ten minutes in the 80th minute when a Streda fan ran onto the pitch and punched the referee in the face.

FRANCE: Marseille coach Tomislav Ivic says he expects to put new signing Trevor Steven straight into the team for Saturday's game against struggling Nimes — who include two Marseille old boys in Vercruysse and Cantona.

ITALY: Some 10,000 Lazio fans turn out at the Leonardo da Vinci airport at Fiumicino to welcome new hero Paul Gascoigne to the Eternal City.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23

ALBANIA: The federation bans Dinamo Tirana from the Cup because the club were absent, playing fund-raising friendlies in Romania, when the new league season opened.

GERMANY: Dresden lose 2-0 at home to Bayern Munich.

ITALY: Paul Gascoigne receives a rapturous reception from Lazio fans in the Stadio Olimpico but his "welcome game" turns sour when fans pelt visiting Real Madrid players with missiles. Madrid win 5-3 on penalties after a 1-1 draw.

SWEDEN: Tickets for the European championship finals will go on sale in Sweden from January 17, the date of the draw for the tournament's closing stages.

SWITZERLAND: UEFA order Yugoslavia a no-go area for the European club cups. All home ties must be staged on neutral territory. UEFA says the ruling "will be lifted at the request of the Yugoslav federation once UEFA has received assurances that internal order has been re-established and that international matches may be played without risk to either persons or property."

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24

ACTION: In Austria Rapid stay top despite losing 1-0 at home to Stahl Linz ... in France Cannes have three players, including veteran international Luis Fernandez, sent off in 1-1 draw against Paris SG; Marseille beat Nimes 4-2 with debutant Trevor Steven starring and Pele scoring twice ... in Portugal, Benfica win 1-0 away to Gil Vicente thanks to a penalty from Antonio Pacheco ... Hansa Rostock beat Borussia Monchengladbach 2-1 to stay top in Germany; Fortuna lose 3-0 at home to Stuttgart and remain pointless after five games.

NORWAY: Age Hareide, former international defender, quits as boss of bottom of the table Molde.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25

ACTION: Qatar beat the United States 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the quarter-finals of the World Under-17 championship in Italy. They now face Ghana, who beat Brazil 2-1. In the other quarter-finals, Argentina beat Australia 2-1 and Spain defeat Germany 3-1 ... Cup-winners' Cup contenders OB lose again, this time 3-2 away to B1902, to stay bottom with two points from six games ... Ajax are held goalless at home by Vitesse ... Porto win 2-0 away at Estoril thanks to penalties from Ion Timofte and Joao Pinto ... European and Yugoslav champions Red Star win easily by 4-0 away to Proleter Zrenjanin thanks to two goals from, Mihajlovic and one each from Ilic and Stosic.

SCOTLAND: Dundee United pay San Lorenzo £200,000 for Argentine youth international winger Walter Rojas.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

FRANCE: Stephane Demol is still waiting for Standard Liege to seal final details of his transfer from Toulouse ... Michel Platini names his squad for the European qualifier against Czechoslovakia and admits to fears that Marseille's capture of Trevor Steven may upset his own plans by restricting opportunities for Marseille's own French midfielders. Squad: Martini, Rousset; Amoros, Blanc, Boli, Casoni, Garde, Silvestre; Angloma, Deschamps, Durand, Fernandez, Sauzee; Papin, Perez, Vahirua, Cocard.

GERMANY: Walter Troeger, a German member of the International Olympic Committee, calls on the IOC to recognise the three Baltic states (Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) following the collapse of Soviet influence after the attempted

CONTINUED OVER

OBITUARY

JEAN SADOUL, president of the French league for nearly 25 years, dies in Paris aged 79. In recent months Sadoul had come under heavy criticism for the league and federation's failure to keep a tighter grip on clubs and allow the likes of Bordeaux, Nice and Brest to fall so heavily into debt.

RICCARDO LATTANZI, former Italian international referee, dies aged 57, leaving a widow and a son. The peak of his career was refereeing the 1981 Cup-winners' Cup Final in Dusseldorf, in which Tbilisi beat Carl Zeiss Jena. He then retired, three years earlier than necessary - "because I always wanted to go out at the top." Lattanzi made headlines in Perugia once when, after being struck by an orange thrown from the crowd, he peeled the fruit and ate it.

WILLIE THORNTON, one-time Rangers favourite, dies aged 71. Thornton was a popular centre forward between 1936 and 1954. He scored 188 goals in 303 matches and forged a great attacking partnership with winger Willie Waddell. Thornton later managed Dundee and Partick Thistle before becoming Rangers' assistant manager during Waddell's spell as manager. Thornton won the Military Medal while serving with the Duke of Atholl's Highlanders in Italy during the second world war.

VERNON EDWARDS, former England team doctor, died after a long illness. Dr Edwards began working for the FA in 1971 and was England doctor until forced to retire by ill-health in 1987.

CYRIL KNOWLES, former England, Tottenham and Middlesbrough full-back and Hartlepool manager, died in Middlesbrough after a long illness, aged 47. Knowles made more than 400 appearances for Tottenham between 1964 and 1975, winning the FA Cup in 1967 and the UEFA Cup in 1972. He played four times for England. Knowles, who had to resign as Hartlepool manager last March because of ill health, is survived by a widow and two children.

GIANMARCO MEZZADRI, Bologna's centre back in the late 1940s and 1950s, dies aged 68.

UGO LAMANNA, Argentine-born 1930s star, dies aged 78 in Italy. Lamanna played for Independiente, Vasco da Gama (Brazil) and Atalanta (Italy).

WALTER ZEMAN, one of Europe's finest goalkeepers in the 1950s, dies in Vienna aged 64. Zeman was nicknamed the Glasgow Tiger thanks to his display when Austria won 1-0 at Hampden in 1950. He played 41 times for Austria between 1947 and 1960 and kept goal for the World XI in the 4-4 draw against England at Wembley in 1953.

KAROLY SOOS, one of Hungary's top coaches in the 1950s and 1960s, dies in Budapest aged 82. Soos had spells as national and Olympic team manager before moving to develop the game in East Germany in the 1960s.

diary continued

coup against President Gorbachev. IOC recognition would inevitably lead on to FIFA membership applications and the arrival of three "new" nations on the European competitive scene ... bad news for Bayern Munich: Brian Laudrup tore ligaments in his right knee in the weekend win over Dresden and will be out for four months. Bayern are also without Olaf Thon, Thomas Strunz and their Brazilians, Bernardo and Mazinho II.

NORWAY: *Struggling Molde move to appoint Bill Foulkes, one-time Busby Babe, in succession to Age Hareide as coach.*

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

ACTION: *Norway lose 1-0 at home to the Soviet Union in a European under-21 qualifier ... Finland beat Greece 1-0 in an Olympic friendly.*

ALBANIA: *The 17 Nentori club revert to their original, pre-war, pre-Communist name of Sportclub Tirana just five days before the start of the new season.*

BRAZIL: *Ernesto Paulo, coach to Botafogo and boss of the Brazil team which recently finished runners-up to hosts Portugal in the World Youth Cup, is named caretaker manager of the seniors for the visit to Cardiff to play Wales on September 11.*

ENGLAND: *Sweden forward Anders Limpar is sent off as champions Arsenal beat Luton 2-0.*

GERMANY: *Fortuna Dusseldorf, bottom of the table without a point to their name, sack Josef Hickersberger — formerly Austria's World Cup coach — and name Ralf Schafstall (ex-Bochum) as caretaker.*

ITALY: *The country's top clairvoyant predicts that Juventus will win the championship and the UEFA Cup and that strikers Toto Schillaci and Pierluigi Casiraghi will each score ten goals in the league.*

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28

ACTION: *Norway go down 1-0 at home to the Soviet Union in a European championship qualifier ... Romania lose 2-0 at home in Brasov to the United States ... in the World Under-17 semi-finals in Italy, Spain beat Argentina 1-0 and Ghana beat Qatar 4-2 on penalties after a 0-0 draw ... Robert Prosinecki makes his debut for Real Madrid in a 6-1 thrashing of South American champions Colo-Colo in the annual Trofeo Bernabeu match in the Spanish capital ... full midweek league schedules are completed in Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France (Marseille lose 1-0 at Toulon), Germany (Bayern Munich lose 2-0 at home to Bochum and Eintracht Frankfurt go top of the table), Holland, Poland and Switzerland, with Italy staging second round first leg cup-ties.*

ITALY: *Verona appeal against a six-match ban imposed on new Yugoslav capture Dragan Stojkovic for being sent off for dissent in a pre-season friendly. Other "pre-season" suspensions include three matches on Napoli's Brazilian midfielder Alemao (for insulting a referee) and two matches on Milan's Maldini (for butting Juve's Casiraghi).*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29

ENGLAND: *Liverpool's annual meeting sees David Moores (of the wealthy pools family) succeed Noel White as chairman ... Raphael Meade, much travelled forward, signs on trial for Brighton.*

GERMANY: *Koln sack coack Erich Rutemoller as they remain without a win after six league games. Technical director Udo Lattek (ex-Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund, Borussia Monchengladbach and Barcelona) takes over as caretaker.*

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30

ACTION: *Argentina beat Qatar 4-1 on penalties after a 1-1 draw in the World Under-17 third place match.*

ARGENTINA: *Hector Veira, former Argentine international and River Plate and Cadiz coach, is sentenced to six years in jail in Buenos Aires for offences with a minor. The case was originally dismissed in 1989 then reopened in April this year after a prosecution appeal.*

AUSTRALIA: *The Victoria state federation decide that the first division match between Westgate of Melbourne and North Geelong must be played behind closed doors on Wednesday. It's all due to the trouble in Yugoslavia: Westgate is a "Serb" club, North Geelong is "Croat."*

AUSTRIA: *Rapid Vienna confirm that shares will be open to local stock market dealing from October 7. Rapid are following the examples set by England's Spurs, Man Utd and Millwall, Italy's Milan and Denmark's Brondby.*

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: *Bohemians lose 2-0 at home to Dukla in the league.*

FRANCE: *Metz go down 3-1 at home to Montpellier ... Marseille send new Argentine signing Leo Rodriguez on loan to Toulon for the rest of the season ... bottom club Nancy buy German striker Thomas Seeliger from Eintracht Braunschweig.*

GERMANY: *Fortuna Dusseldorf, under new management, beat Wattenscheid 4-3 at home to win their first game of the season.*

PORTUGAL: *New manager Carlos Queiroz calls up three foreign-based players for the European qualifier against Finland — Futre, Rui Barros and Oceano. Full squad: Vitor Baia, Adelino; Samuel, Oceano, Joao Pinto, Fernando Couto, Veloso, Jose Leal, Venancio; Manuel Guimaraes, Rui Barros, Paulo Sousa; Domingos, Futre, Aguas, Antonio Pacheco, Cesar Brito, Cadete.*

SOVIET UNION: *Soccer freedom for the Baltic countries moves a step closer as the Soviet Olympic Committee recognises the independent Olympic status of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.*

WALES: *Wales recall Mark Bowen for the friendly against Brazil. Squad: Southall, Norman; Phillips, Melville, Ratcliffe, Aizlewood, Bodin, Bowen; Horne, Speed, Pembridge, Maguire, Hodges; Saunders, Hughes, Pascoe.*

WORLD SOCCER MONTHLY AWARDS

A new feature to highlight individual and team achievements over the past month.

OCTOBER'S AWARDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

PLAYER OF THE MONTH: GEORGE WEAH

George Weah - Monaco's Liberian striker for an outstanding start to the new European season. With 11 goals in 10 games Weah has, literally, shot Monaco back to the top of French football.

CLUB OF THE MONTH: HAJDUK SPLIT

whose players and officials courageously overcame a string of awesome hurdles to keep their Cup-winners' Cup first round first leg date with Tottenham Hotspur in Linz. Hajduk's players first had to risk travel in their own war-struck republic, took a ferry across to Italy then a bus ride up through Europe. Their reward was their 1-0 victory.

SOCCER ON TV...

SKY SPORTS

WEDNESDAY 2 OCTOBER
7.00am ZDS CUP: Highlights of Tranmere v Newcastle.
Midday Italian League Football

THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER
Midday ZDS CUP: Exclusive coverage from one of last night's matches.
6.00pm European Round-Up: Highlights of a top European match plus goals and action from France, Holland and Spain.
11.00pm European Round-Up: As 6.00pm.

FRIDAY 4 OCTOBER
7.30am European Round-Up.
12.30pm European Round-Up.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend.
7.00pm German Football: Live action.
10.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend.
Midnight German Football: Bundesliga highlights.

SATURDAY 5 OCTOBER
8.30am European Round-Up.
9.30 Sky Soccer Weekend.
Midday German Football: Yesterday's big match.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Classic: The 1966 World Cup Final.

SUNDAY 6 OCTOBER
2.30pm Italian Football: Live Action.
8.00pm Scottish Football: The weekend's highlights.
10.00pm Italian Football: Action from Serie A.

MONDAY 7 OCTOBER
Midday Italian Football: Yesterday's game.
3.00pm Scottish Football: Weekend highlights.
9.00pm Italian Football: A full match from the weekend, plus goals from the rest of Serie A.

TUESDAY 8 OCTOBER
12.30pm Sky Soccer Classic: 1966 World Cup Final.
6.00pm Italian Football: A full match from the weekend plus goals from the rest of Serie A.
9.00pm The Footballer's Football Show: Guests discuss the week's major topics and analyse the skills.
Midnight The Footballer's Football Show: See 9.00pm.

WEDNESDAY 9 OCTOBER
Midday Italian Football: A full match from the weekend, plus goals from the rest of Serie A.
2.00pm The Footballer's Football Show

THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER
6.00pm European Round-Up: Highlights, news and results from France, Holland and Spain.
11.00pm European Football: Round-up.

FRIDAY 11 OCTOBER
9.30am European Football: Round-up.
12.30pm European Round-up.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend.
7.00pm German Football: Live action from the Bundesliga.
10.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend: An update of the evening show.
Midnight German football: See 7.00pm.

SATURDAY 12 OCTOBER
8.30am European Round-up.
9.30am Sky Soccer Weekend.
Midday German Football: Action from the Bundesliga.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Classic: West Germany v Holland 1974.

SUNDAY 13 OCTOBER
3.00am Italian League: Highlights and stories of the season to date.
8.00pm Scottish League: The best of the weekend's action.
10.00pm Italian League: See 3.00pm.

MONDAY 14 OCTOBER
Midday Italian League: The season so far.
3.00pm Scottish League: The best of the weekend's action.
9.00pm Italian Football: The season so far.

TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER
12.30pm Sky Soccer Classic: West Germany v Holland 1974.
9.00pm The Footballer's Football Show.
Midnight The Footballer's Football Show.

WEDNESDAY 16 OCTOBER
Midday Italian League: The season so far.
2.00pm The Footballer's Football Show.
5.00pm POLAND V REPUBLIC OF IRELAND - Live.
7.30pm ENGLAND V TURKEY - Live.
1.30am International Football: See 7.30pm.

THURSDAY 17 OCTOBER
7.00am Poland v Republic of Ireland: Last night's match in full.
Midday England v Turkey: Last night's match in full.
6.00pm European Football Round-up: Extensive highlights from across the continent.
11.00pm European Round-up.
Midnight Poland v Republic of Ireland: Last night's match.

FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER
12.30pm European Round-up.
2.30pm Poland v Republic of Ireland.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend.
7.00pm German Football: Live action.
10.00pm Sky Soccer Weekend.
Midnight German Football.

SATURDAY 19 OCTOBER
8.30am European Round-up.
9.30am Sky Soccer Weekend.
Midday German Football: Last night's big Bundesliga match.
6.00pm Sky Soccer Classic: 1978 World Cup Final: Argentina v Holland.

SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER
2.00pm Italian Football: Live action.
8.00pm Scottish Football.
10.00pm Italian Football.

MONDAY 21 OCTOBER
Midday Italian Football: Yesterday's game.
3.00pm Scottish League.
9.00pm Italian Football: Coverage of a full match from the weekend, plus goals from the rest of the Serie A.

TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER
7.00pm Zenith Data Systems Cup - Live: Leeds v Nottingham Forest.
1.30am Zenith Data Systems Cup: Action from the second round.

WEDNESDAY 23 OCTOBER
7.00am Zenith Data Systems Cup: Leeds v Forest.
Midday Italian League: A full match from the weekend, plus goals.

SCREENSPORT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11
6:30 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3
22:30 Spanish Football 1991-92: Sporting v Barcelona, Real Madrid v Sevilla

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
14:00 Argentina Soccer 1991-92

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7
23:40 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8
18:00 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9
08:00 Spanish Football Highlights
12:00 Argentina Soccer 1991-92

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10
22:30 Spanish Football 1991-92: Barcelona v Oviedo, Sporting v Real Madrid

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14
23:30 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15
19:30 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16
08:00 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17
18:00 Argentina Soccer 1991-92

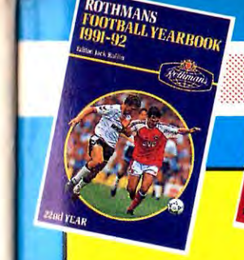
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19
11:30 Argentina Soccer 1991-92

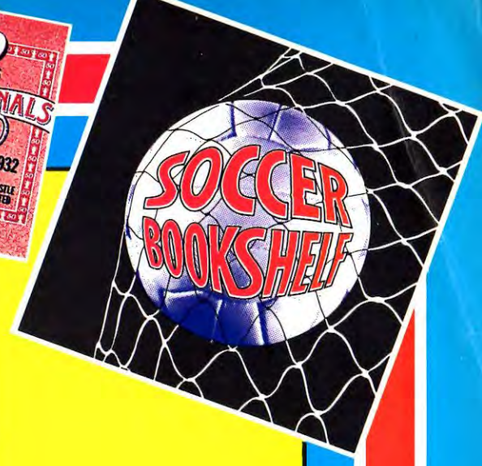
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21
23:30 Spanish Football Highlights

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22
18:00 Spanish Football Highlights

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23
08:00 Spanish Football Highlights

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
21:00 Spanish Football 1991-92: Real Madrid v Barcelona, Oviedo v Atletico Madrid.





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Europe

GERMANY BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

Wembley delight for Riedle

A DEPLETED German national side displayed a remarkably combative attitude when they beat England 1-0 at Wembley.

Manager Berti Vogts, criticised after the defeat by Wales in the previous outing in June, described it as "the best performance since I took office".

Yet the Germans had to omit six players, Rudi Voller, Thomas Helmer, Matthias Sammer, Stefan Kuntz and Stefan Reuter (all injured), plus Thomas Berthold, who after being suspended for five matches at competitive level, was not considered for this, the final rehearsal for the crucial return with Wales on October 16, in Nurnberg.

Vogts was happy with those who are fighting for a permanent place, such as Wembley scorer Karl-Heinz Riedle and his partner in the new-look attack, Lazio team-mate Thomas Doll. But Thomas Hassler, the terrier in midfield and sweeper Manfred Binz also did well.

Captain Lothar Matthaus was outstanding, while 'keeper Bodo Illgner impressed with his reflexes, but not with his punching which was often inaccurate and risky. England, also upset by injury and suspensions, fought well and the media were generous with their praise of the German performance.

The world champions were technically superior, while their running off the ball and into position was exemplary. They are the only country to succeed on English soil more than once and have now recorded three wins.

On the domestic front the talk is of rising gates. In the second round, for example, the ten games drew nearly 300,000 spectators, the highest figure for 14 years. And not just because there was a game more than a year ago, when the top division comprised 18 clubs.

Goal . . . Pallister watches helplessly as Riedle scores the winner with a simple header past Woods.

Even such modest opposition as easterners Hansa Rostock attracted 43,000 in Munich, where the underrated visitors won 2-1 on their way to a surprise early lead in the table.

Team manager Uwe Reinders, 36, made his name as a player with Werder Bremen, then starred in France for Bordeaux and Rennes, and later became player/coach with Eintracht Brunswick He also gained four caps.

The club, who were forced to part with several players, have decided to shop in the East for cheaper talent; their newcomers include three Czechs. But even Reinders could not have foreseen the impact his team would make in the professional elite.

Despite Hansa's good start in the Bundesliga, many would pick the other ex-GDR club, Dynamo Dresden, as the more likely to stay up.

Their second win of the season, over Stuttgart, contained a goal by Zander, the first conceeded by international keeper Immel for 334 minutes.

Matthias Sammer, formerly with Dynamo, got the bird from the crowd with a poor performance on his return, which rounded off a thoroughly depressing month for him.

By contrast, record champions Bayern Munich are under heavy pressure, especially team boss Jupp Heynckes. Following the home defeat by Hansa, the Bavarians were amazingly beaten in the Cup by Second Division Homburg, losing at home by 4-2 after extra time.

President Dr. Fritz Scherer tried to explain the problem by saying: "A backbone like the one Augenthaler, Reuter and Kohler provided cannot be replaced easily."

The publicised differences between Heynckes and the international midfielder Stefan Effenberg have not helped to cool the heated atmosphere either.

Little wonder that the media are already speculating as to Heynckes's successor. Some are claiming that only the lack of suitable alternatives is keeping Heynckes in the job.

Names such as Beckenbauer, Sacchi and Daum have been bandied about and other managers opinions quoted. And it is significant that the former Bayern coach, Udo Lattek, the most successful at club level in German history, was warmly greeted recently by the Bayern delegation in Cologne when the club played Koln.

Lattek had just been persuaded to take over as Koln caretaker after Erich Rutemoller was sacked. Lattek, who was supposed to have retired from management to become a magazine columnist, couldn't resist the recall. Now he is free again, with Jorg Berger taking over full-time at Koln. Whether Lattek can be talked into taking the tight-rope Bayern job is questionable.

Accused

An even bigger sensation was the return of controversial former international goalkeeper Toni Schumacher, 37.

Capped 76 times, he was dismissed by Koln in 1987, after publishing a book in which he accused international colleagues of drug taking and sex parties.

Schumacher has just retired after a spell in Turkey with Fenerbahce — just as Bayern 'keeper Raimond Aumann suffered a crucial ligament damage and reserve Sven Scheuer underwent a shoulder operation.

Inexperienced Gerald Hillringhaus, like Scheuer still an amateur, was the only eligible 'keeper. Thus Schumacher is acting as cover in Bundesliga matches. He signed too late to play in the first three rounds in Europe.

DENMARK BY JIM HOLDEN

Brondby still tops

BRONDBY remained the only unbeaten team in the new Danish superliga after seven games. A 3-1 defeat of Naestved with two goals from new international Frank Pingel put them level at the top on 10 points with early pacesetters Lyngby.

Despite losing the spine of their side in the summer — goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, libero Lars Olsen and striker Bent Christensen all moving abroad — Brondby remain the side everyone has to beat.

Pingel, who had a spell in England with Newcastle, has struck the best form of his career in partnership with Claus Nielsen, back home from Holland. An injury to Nielsen together with the unavailability of OB's Lars Elstrup earned him a call-up for the friendly against Iceland.

Also making his international debut that day was Silkeborg's Heine Fernandez, a 24-year-old striker with four goals to his credit this season.

Refused

Elstrup was at the centre of another row as the Danish FA refused to back national team manager Richard Moller Nielsen's demand that he be freed for the Iceland game. OB had a European Cup-winners' Cup preliminary round second leg tie that night and wanted to keep their star striker despite being 3-0 up from the away leg against Galway United.

Pingel . . . on form for Brondby.

Elstrup is top scorer so far in the league with seven goals from seven games, although his club are rooted at the bottom of the table with just four points.

Moller Nielsen's position obviously remains tenuous despite public backing from his bosses. The row with the Laudrup brothers simmers on, both refusing to play under him.

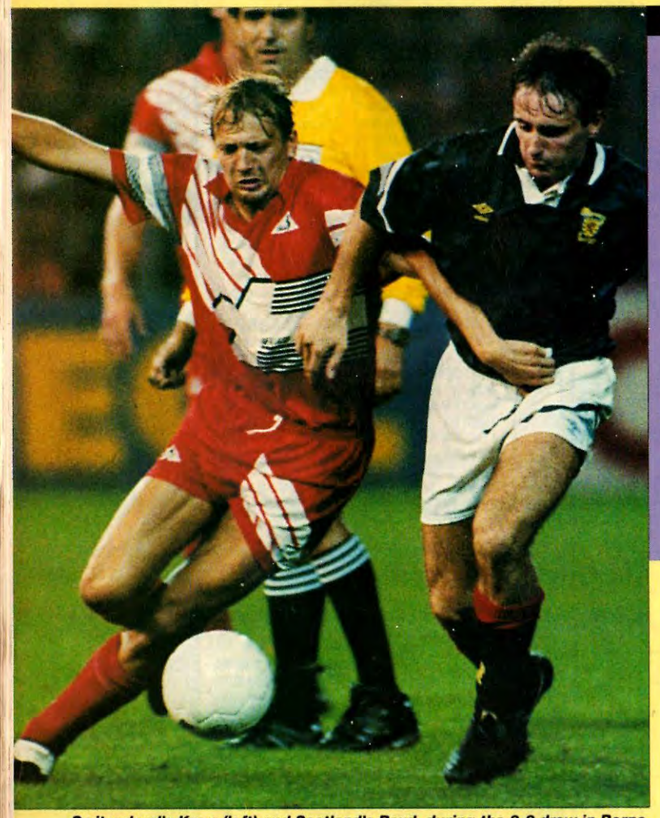
Brian Laudrup, at Bayern Munich, turned down another plea from Danish team-mates to reconsider his position last month. A further worry for Moller Nielsen is the future of central defender Kent Nielsen, who has been dropped from his Aston Villa side by new boss Ron Atkinson.

Described

The whole-hearted centre-back joined the squad in Iceland, despite calls from club managers in Denmark that there were better players in their own league. Nielsen, described as a model professional by Atkinson, hopes to return to the Villa side soon. He said: "It's still early in the season and so much can happen. I'm not thinking of asking for a transfer at the moment, but I can't be happy having to play reserve team football for a long time."

Another unhappy Dane in England, Norwich City's Henrik Mortensen, returned home for a week's trial with Brondby, hoping to prove himself worth a £250,000 transfer.

Two players from OB moved to Ajax Amsterdam, 19-year-old striker Dan Petersen and international defender Johnny Hansen. OB hope to buy Per Steffensen as a replacement.



Switzerland's Knup (left) and Scotland's Boyd, during the 2-2 draw in Berne.

SWITZERLAND

SWISS MISS THEIR CHANCE

THE SWISS national side missed a marvellous opportunity of almost making sure they qualify for the European Championship finals, when they allowed Scotland to recover and snatch a 2-2 draw in Berne

Leading by 2-0 at half-time thanks to a thumping strike from Stephane Chapuisat and a header by the veteran Heinz Hermann, playing in his 115th international, nothing indicated that the visitors could come back into the game.

But they did and the Swiss may yet rue their lack of concentration which led to the two goals conceded. If Switzerland had played as well in defence as they did in attack, it might have been a different story. Alas, their two most experienced defenders, Andy Egli and Marcel Koller, were badly missed through injury.

The Wankdorf stadium's capacity was reduced from 55,000 to 44,000 for security reasons. The game was sold out weeks in advance and receipts have smashed all records. £400,000 was taken at the gate alone, while television raised a further £100,000. Interest was also fuelled by the fact that the Swiss were unbeaten in the last seven matches — a unique record in the 86-year-history off their national team.

The SFV (FA) arranged a league round for the previous Wednesday, so that the players, unlike their Scottish opponents, had at least a week's rest.

Promised

In the league championship the holders Grasshoppers took over at the top, a point ahead of Lausanne and Sion, the only teams still undefeated after ten rounds. But behind them a gap opened up of five points over Servette and Luzern.

Last but one were FC Zurich who, under German team manager Herbert Neumann, started with such high hopes. Their exotic striking trio of Brazilian Milton, South African Makalakalane and the Colombian Trellez promised more than they could deliver.

ARTHUR ROTMIL

ALBANIA BY GEZIM NUSHI

DINAMO of Tirana have been refused permission to compete in the Albanian Cup this season — because of the club's delayed start to the League programme.

The Albanian Football Federation's decision caused uproar among fans of the club.

Dinamo had been on tour in Romania, earning much-needed cash, and as a result their first three games were postponed.

Two Second Division teams have been given the same punishment for failing to fulfil fixtures, because so many players had left the country.

Devolli of Bilishti missed the first three matches, and Veleciku of Kopliku missed two.

Player Power led to another delay in the start of the new season.

Only 48 hours before the kick-off was due, the Football Federation met club representatives to discuss various contentious items that had been put forward.

The main problem was a petition from players with Flamurtari who were asking for a rise in pay and for transfer contracts to be negotiated by the clubs and not by the AFF.

Players and referees also asked for better policing at grounds.

The Federation, faced with political upheaval and loss of players emigrating, decided to try to solve the problems as quickly as possible.

In order to do so, the start of the season was put back for 21 days.

SWEDEN BY TIM MANSEL

Bang-bang methods pay off

ENGLAND manager Graham Taylor was in Bratislava at the beginning of September, watching Jean-Pierre Papin put paid to Czechoslovakian hopes of qualifying for Euro '92 in Sweden.

At the same time, his assistant, Lawrie McMenemy, was in Stockholm to see the Swedes beat Yugoslavia 4-3 in a highly-entertaining friendly.

"You can't beat goals and shots and crosses to bring excitement and entertainment," said McMenemy. "The crowd applauded everyone off tonight, and I don't think they'd have been too bothered if Yugoslavia had scored another goal — which they nearly did."

The Yugoslavs had arrived in Stockholm without the best part of their midfield. Robert Prosinecki had been prevented from travelling by his club, Real Madrid, and Dragan Stojkovic was suspended.

Add the loss of all their home-based Croatian players and injury to Srecko Katanec, and the idea of an evening at Rasunda had lost some of its appeal.

We needn't have worried, largely due to Red Star's Dejan Savicevic, who score twice and created much more.

"A brilliant player," was Lawrie McMenemy's verdict. There are plenty of footballers credited with the ability to thread a needle with their left foot. Savicevic is one.

His second goal, to level at 2-2, was a superbly chipped free-kick from the edge of the box.

Savicevic's first goal, underlining his versatility, was a thunderous right-foot volley from the edge of the area.

McMenemy also praised Anders Limpar, who ran the Swedish midfield and scored a fine goal, and Martin Dahlin, who scored two goals.

So, are the Swedes potential European champions? According to McMenemy they'll be difficult to beat.

"They're a very strong team, and I like the way they're not frightened to have a shot. As soon as they see the whites of the goalkeeper's eyes, they'll give it a crack," he said.

Sweden's fourth goal was a typical example, said McMenemy, a 25-yarder from Jonas Thern.

Some observers credited Yugoslavia's third to striker Darko Pancev, but Peter Larsson put his blond head to the ball in front of Pancev, and placed a bullet-like header beyond the reach of his own goalkeeper. "Goal of the year," was the grinning Larsson's verdict.

One of the Swedish TV channels invited manager Tommy Svensson to demonstrate his 3-5-2 formation with a magnetic board and 11 marker discs, and to explain why he wasn't using a more conventional 4-4-2.

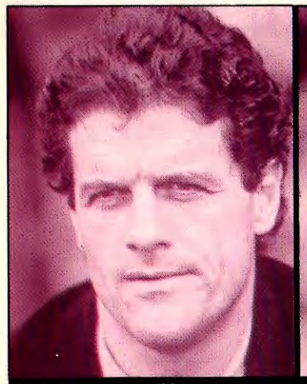
The answer was fairly simple. Svensson didn't think his defenders were good enough to keep a clean sheet to order, but thought his attackers were good enough to score more goals than were conceded at the other end.

That's why he'll continue with 3-5-2.

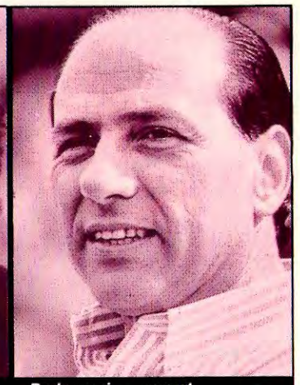
Dahlin . . . scored twice in the 4-3 victory against Yugoslavia.

ITALY BY PADDY AGNEW

STAR WARS AT MILAN



Capello . . . amenable.



Berlusconi . . . expert.

TROUBLE down at the AC Milan mill. The new season was but three days old when already there were signs that Milan's progress this year could well be adversely effected by a nasty combination of presidential interference, disgruntled stars and a hapless team coach.

It takes no great visionary powers to predict that this could be a difficult year for Milan.

Despite the fact that a number of observers, Franz Beckenbauer included, were suggesting eight months ago that this particular squad had come to the end of its winning "cycle", Milan this summer chose to stick with the same basic unit of players.

Indeed, Milan's biggest midsummer change concerned the departure of coach Arrigo Sacchi and his replacement by Fabio Capello. Despite the fact that he had guided Milan to one Italian title, two Champions' Cup and one Intercontinental Cup wins, Sacchi's departure was strangely unmourned .

Tired

Officially, Sacchi left Milan because he was tired of the stress and strain of managing a side that was "condemned to win". Unofficially, Milan owner-president Silvio Berlusconi was only too glad to let Sacchi go.

For some while now, Berlusconi has fancied himself as something of a soccer "expert". Accordingly, he is keen to share his knowledge with his team coach.

Unfortunately for him, though, Sacchi proved remarkably unresponsive to any possible co-laboration. Sacchi, the "Mr. Nobody" of Italian soccer who won the Italian title at his first attempt, preferred to do things his own way. In Milan football club circles, Sacchi became known as "stubborn".

While Milan were winning all around them, Berlusconi remained silent and allowed Sacchi total control not just in matters of team selection but also with regard to the club's moves on the transfer market.

As soon as things went wrong for Milan, i.e. last season, then Sacchi became a disposable item. Milan's elimination from the Champions' Cup by Marseille and failure to stay the course in the title race signalled the end of the Sacchi era.

Although a number of famous names such as Swede Sven Eriksson (Benfica), Colombian Francesco Maturana (Valladolid) and Dutchman Johan Cruyff (Barcelona) were considered as possible replacements for Sacchi, the job eventually went to the "in house" product, Capello.

A pleasant man, who has spent much of the last four years commentating on soccer on the Berlusconi channels, Capello is widely believed to have won the job because he will prove more "amenable" to the suggestions of his President.

First problem for the new man (and his president) is Ductchman Ruud Gullit. Sacchi had wanted rid of him since he believed Gullit to be "finished". Berlusconi, however, insisted on holding onto both.

Sacchi, incidentally, had serious reservations about several other Milan players, whom he adjudged to be burnt out.

Sacchi might have been laughing quietly to himself when, by the third game of the season, Milan's bill topping clash away to Juventus, Gullit had become a public problem.

On the Saturday morning before the Juventus game, Capello had told Gullit that he was out of the team and would start the game on the bench.

By the afternoon, Capello had mysteriously changed his mind and Gullit was back in, at the expense of Italian international Roberto Donadoni.

In the end, both Gullit and Donadoni played from the beginning but only because Dutch striker Marco Van Basten had to drop out because of a muscle pull.

In the hours following the 1-1 draw with Juventus, Gullit, Donadoni and Berlusconi all chose to do a lot of talking. Gullit expressed his sense of hurt at having been dropped, while Donadoni regretted that he had not left the club in midsummer.

Berlusconi, however, had the most interesting things to say. Confirming that Donadoni remained a first team player, he broke new ground by describing Gullit as a "good first division player". The former European Player of the Year had been publicly re-dimensioned.

Berlusconi furthermore went on to justify his involvement in the team when he said on Italian radio:

"A president, particularly one who has had the experience that I have had in the handling of men and business concerns, cannot hide from the need to offer advice and stimulus and to express his opinion in his relationship with his managers, even with a football manager."

Little wonder, then, that it is believed Gullit's re-instatement into the side had a lot to do with Berlusconi's arrival out at the team headquarters on the Saturday in question.

ITALIAN NEWS...

REMARKABLY it took only three Italian league days to sort out the men from the boys. Juventus, Internazionale and Milan, three obvious pre-season favourites, were already joint leaders after less than five hours of league soccer. Last month in this column we suggested that Juventus might well be the team to beat this year and, frankly, nothing seen so far has done anything to shake that belief.

Even at this early stage, the FIAT owned side from Turin are beginning to perform in a realistic, no risks manner that bears the hallmark of its current coach and returned prodigal son, Giovanni Trapattoni.

Along with Brazilian Julio Cesar, the Germans Juergen Kohler and Stefan Reuter, both bought from Bayern Munich, have done what they were meant to do — batten down the defensive hatches. Better still, not only does Reuter look useful in defence but he has been moving down the flanks with attacking venom, even contriving to set up a goal for "Toto" Schillaci against Foggia. You might recall that last season "Toto" went from November to May without scoring even the once.

Glanced

After a five year break, the return of the all winning Juventus combination of director Giampiero Boniperti and coach Trapattoni thus far reads like a fairy tale.

Even more remarkable though is the thought that, having glanced around the opposition, it is difficult to envisage just which side will spoil the "won the title and all lived happily ever after" Juventus ending.

Milan, as explained at greater length elsewhere in this issue, look like they will foul up their season (in which they are banned from European soccer) thanks to a nasty blend of presidential interference, star rivalry and a powerless team coach.

Suffice to say here, that Milan's 1-1 draw away to Juventus on the third day of the season has not convinced everyone that come the end of the season Milan will still be in the title race.

Internazionale, too, have so far run true to prediction. The all German "engine room" of midfielder Lothar Matthaus and left back Andreas Brehme has yet to tick over at full revs while several members of the team appear not to have assimilated all the many ideas of new coach, Corrado Orrico.

The latter gave an interesting indication of what to expect over the winter after Inter had beaten Verona 2- 0 at home in a bizzare game which saw them awarded four penalties only one of which they actually put away, first time when he said:

"Yes I'll change the team for the next game and for others because it is my responsibility to select the most in form players."

Indeed. Sounds like Signore Orrico already has his own plans for how best to stimulate tired (German) stars into competitive and winning action again. We will await developments with interest. No surprises if there are occasional rows in the Inter camp.

Final thoughts concern Bari and Lazio. The latter's chances of achieving their long term target of qualifying for European competition were not helped by a injury sustained by German striker, Karl-Heinz Riedle.

Only three days after scoring the winner against England at Wembley, Riedle put himself out for two months when tearing ankle ligaments playing for Lazio in their 1-1 home draw against Atalanta.

Bari, too, have been struck by a serious injury — the broken leg suffered by dynamic Brazilian striker Joao Paulo.

David Platt, who has started well, may miss him. So will the rest of us.

Gullit . . . back in the team.

Reuter (left) and Maldini in action

Italian paradox

WHY DOES MANCINI SO OFTEN DISAPPOINT?

ROBERTO MANCINI, Sampdoria captain and last season's Footballer of the Year, is the great paradox of Italian soccer.

His club displays over the past five years have been generally exceptional, but Mancini has never truly expressed his undoubted class for his country.

Many Italian observers consider him the most talented player of his generation. But since making his international debut in 1984 Mancini has collected only 26 caps, and on 17 of those occasions he was either substitute or substituted.

Nor can he point to a prolific scoring record in the national team. His only goal came during the 1988 European Championship opener against West Germany which finished 1-1.

"More than the goal itself, I remember my reaction," says Mancini. "My team-mates tried to congratulate me, but I pushed them aside to run to the stands and confront a journalist, who never wasted an opportunity to insult me.

"That day he had described me as the `most pathetic forward in Italy' and I wanted to see his face after I had scored."

After the European Championships and a 10-match spell as a starter for Italy, Mancini was dropped by national manager Azeglio Vicini. He was included in the squad for the 1990 World Cup, but remained on the sidelines for the entire tournament.

"Italia '90 was a tremendous disappointment for me," he says. "I spent two months in training camp and I did not play for a minute."

Suited

Mancini's lack of success at international level probably lies with the fact that Italy invariably have used him in a striking role to which he is not instinctively suited. In contrast, at Sampdoria his touch and vision are used to great effect just behind the front line.

"I do not think of myself as a pure striker," he admits. "I am more a creator."

Last spring Mancini's impressive Sampdoria performances earned him a recall for the European Championship qualifiers against Hungary and Norway, and the Scania 100 tournament in Sweden. "Roberto has played exceptionally in the league this year," said Vicini. "I cannot ignore him."

Vicini's assessment was correct. Sampdoria's championship triumph of last season owed much to the Mancini flair. Not only did he score 12 goals and make 15 others, but he proved to be an influential leader.

While in Sampdoria colours he has won three Italians Cups (1985, 88 and 89) and the Cup-winners' Cup in 1990, but Mancini believes the league title to be the most satisfying.

"The championship was our priority at the beginning of the season and after years of sacrifice we managed to pull it off," he says. "The day we clinched the title was the best of my life."

Joined

Mancini was born in Jesi on November 27, 1964, and joined the town's Aurora club at the age of five. He was 12 when his talent as an attacker caught the eye of a Milan representative. who promised him a trial.

Unfortunately for the youngster, Milan failed to follow up the scout's report.

Two years later, however, Bologna signed him and in September 1981 coach Tarcisio Burgnich gave him his first-team debut, in a 1-1 home draw against Cagliari.

Bologna were relegated that season, but thanks to Mancini's nine goals in 30 matches, he was chosen by Italy manager Enzo Bearzot among the preliminary 40-man squad for the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

Bearzot omitted him from the final party of 22, but at 17 Mancini had made a positive start to his career.

While Italy were occupied by the World Cup, Mancini was the subject of a sensational transfer. Juventus were interested, but were pipped by newly-promoted Sampdoria, who paid £1.5 million for him — a remarkable sum for a teenager.

Mancini scored four goals in his first four games at Sampdoria, before clashes with coach Renzo Ulivieri, and injuries, prevented him from winning a regular first-team spot.

His fortunes improved during 1983-84. He was a league ever-present that season and in May 1984 he made his first appearance for Italy, against Canada in Toronto, when substituting for Bruno Giordano.

Another cap followed versus the United States, but all was destined to turn sour. He broke curfew in New York and a furious Enzo Bearzot swore that Mancini would never play for him again.

Bearzot was true to his word: Mancini was exiled from the team for over two years, until Bearzot retired after the 1986 World Cup.

Autumn that year was very much a turning point of Mancini's career.

In October new coach Vicini — a former Sampdoria captain — played him as a substitute in a 2-0 win over Greece in Bologna. A regular spot would remain elusive, but at least he was back on the international scene.

This season Mancini has set his sights on winning the Champions' Cup, and he believes Sampdoria have the team to do it.

NICK BIDWELL

THAT goal . . . Mancini scores for Italy against West Germany.

YUGOSLAVIA BY TIM COLLINGS

A MUCH-WEAKENED and confused Yugoslav league finally got under way despite the continuing and escalating violence of the civil war, but with the "nation's" European club hopes severely diminished by the need to play all their ties abroad.

The First Division was kept up to size with the inclusion of several former Second Division outfits following the formation of new independent leagues in Croatia and Slovenia and, almost as a result, little-known Belgrade club Zemun were leading after four games.

Much of the credit for their opening burst of three wins in four games was due to widely-respected coach Gerum, who only a few years ago was in charge of the national under-18 team for the annual Toulon tournament.

Red Star, in preparation for their European Cup defence, showed they remained favourites to retain their domestic crown comfortably by scoring 12 goals in their opening four games, including four in a crushing victory over Sloboda in heavy rain.

Dragan Dzajic, Red Star's general manager, said afterwards that the performance of new young talent Lukic was so good "that if he does not become a truly great star, it could only be due to the trainer."

Mihajlovic, who scored twice against Proleter in Red Star's third game, has also impressed.

BULGARIA BY BOB VAUGHAN

Velinov is vital

CSKA, having relinquished the championship to provincial upstarts Etar, are all out to get it back.

They made a fine start with maximum points from their first three games, helped in one by a vital penalty save by goalkeeper Velinov, who has returned to the club after a spell in Portugal.

Levski began with two defeats, one of them against promoted club Dobrudja. Dimov's goal was the first in the top division by the newcomers, and earned them their first victory.

They have not been in the top group for 20 years, and one fears that their stay might be short.

Struggled

Etar shut up shop for a goalless draw at Minyer, and Slavia lost an early lead and struggled to draw against Hebar, promoted up from Division Two.

On the international front, there is still a faint chance of a place in Euro '92. Good wins over San Marino and Romania, with the Scots and Swiss cancelling each other out...stranger things have happened.

TURKEY BY HASAN CEMALI

GERSON MAKES A STORMING START

BRAZILIAN midfielder Gerson is a big hit with his new club, Fenerbahce, after his summer transfer from Italians Bari.

Gerson did well in the pre-season games, then began the League programme with two outstanding displays.

He was man of the match in a surprise 2-1 home defeat by Aydinspor, which was televised live but still drew a gate of 25,000. Receipts totalled £151,000.

Gerson followed up with another excellent performance in a 2-1 away win against Bursaspor, making the first goal for Yugoslav forward Vokri, then scoring the winner.

Polish libero Soczyinski from Lubliana also has done well, and Umit, signed from Altay, had a brilliant match in a 4-2 defeat of Bakirkoy. But record signing Tanju is taking time to settle. He had achieved an unusual pre-season double, scoring in two successive friendlies and missing a penalty in both.

Defeated

Tanju scored in both his new club's games in the Turkish Sportswriters Cup, but was on the losing side both times.

Galatasaray beat Besiktas, the champions, 3-2, Besiktas defeated Fenerbahce 4-1, and Galtasaray beat Fenerbahce 2-1 to take the trophy.

Besiktas had a fine pre-season tour of Holland, winning five games and drawing the other, but could only draw 1-1 at home to Genclerbirligi in their first League game.

The gate was just under 20,000 — due to the live TV transmission of the Fenerbahce match.

Besiktas did better in their second game, winning at Altay with two goals from midfielder Mehmet, who also scored in a 5-1 defeat of Samsunspor.

Galatasaray began by beating Sariyer 2-0 and then won against Gaziantep with a goal by Kosecki after only 32 seconds.

Three foreign-born players are now permitted in Turkish games, and Trabzonspor's trio — Petranovic, Olsen and Cyzio — all did well in a 4-1 win over Samsunspor.

Substitute Hamdi went on after 66 minutes and scored twice.

National coach Sepp Piontek is still experimenting before the vital game against England, but few of his changes seemed to work in a 1-1 home draw against the United States.

Erdal's goal looked to be enough, but the team faded badly towards the finish.

TURKISH FIXTURES

5-6 OCTOBER
Bakirkoy v Boluspor
Ankaragucu v Trabzonspor
Konya v A. Demirspor
Samsun v Altay
G. Antep v G. Birligi
Aydinspor v Sariyer
Bursa v Besiktas
Galatasaray v Fenerbahce

19-20 OCTOBER
A. Demirspor v Fenerbahce
Trabzonspor v Konyaspor
Boluspor v Ankaragucu
Besiktas v Bakirkoy
Sariyer v Bursaspor
G. Birligi v Aydinspor
Altay v G. Antepspor
Samsun v Galatasaray

26-27 OCTOBER
Bakirkoy v Sariyer
Ankaragucu v Besiktas
Konya v Boluspor
Fenerbahce v Trabzonspor
G. Antep v Samsun
Aydinspor v Altay
Bursaspor v G. Birligi
Galatasaray v A. Demirspor

2-3 NOVEMBER
Trabzonspor v A.Demirspor
Boluspor v Fenerbahce
Besiktas v Konyaspor
Sariyer v Ankaragucu
G. Birligi v Bakirkoy
Altay v Bursaspor
Samsun v Aydinspor
G. Antep v Galatasaray

16-17 NOVEMBER
Bakirkoyspor v Altay
Ankaragucu v G. Birligi
Konyaspor v Sariyer
Fenerbahce v Besiktas
A. Demirspor v Boluspor
Aydinspor v G. Antep
Bursaspor v Samsun
Galatasaray v Trabzonspor

23-24 NOVEMBER
Boluspor v Trabzonspor
Besiktas v A. Demirspor
Sariyer v Fenerbahce
G. Birligi v Konyaspor
Altay v Ankaragucu
Samsun v Bakirkoy
G. Antep v Bursaspor
Aydin v Galatasaray

30 NOVEMBER — 1 DEC
Bakirkoy v G. Antep
Ankaragucu v Samsunspor
Konyaspor v Altay
Fenerbahce v G. Birligi
A. Demirspor v Sariyer
Trabzonspor v Besiktas
Bursa v Aydunspor
Galatasaray v Boluspor

7-8 DECEMBER
Besiktas v Boluspor
Sariyer v Trabzonspor
G. Birligi v A. Demirspor
Altay v Fenerbahce
Samsun v Konyaspor
G. Antep v Ankaragucu
Aydinspor v Bakirkoy
Bursa v Galatasaray

14-15 DECEMBER
Galatasaray v Besiktas
Bakirkoy v Bursaspor
Ankaragucu v Aydinspor
Konyaspor v G. Antep
Fenerbahce v Samsun
A. Demirspor v Altay
Trabzonspor v G. Birligi
Boluspor v Sariyer

21-22 DECEMBER
Sariyer v Besiktas
G. Birligi v Boluspor
Altay v Trabzonspor
Samsun v A. Demirspor
G. Antep v Fenerbahce
Aydinspor v Konyaspor
Bursa v Ankaragucu
Galatasaray v Bakirkoy

SPAIN BY GRAHAM TURNER

Ivan is not always terrible

WHEN Ivan Zamorano stuck his second goal past Andoni Zubizarreta in Sevilla's 4-2 victory over Barcelona, the crowd in the Sanchez Pizjuan stadium started waving white handkerchiefs in tribute.

Chilean striker Zamorano — nicknamed Ivan the Terrible — is fast establishing himself among the select band of top hit-men.

His five goals for Chile in the Copa America made him runner-up to six-hitter Gabriel Batistuta and attracted a string of summer offers which Luis Cuervas, the Sevilla president, shrugged aside with a terse "not available" and a reminder that Ivan, the club's record signing, is under contract until June 30 1994.

Yet barely four years ago Zamorano was going for a song. Having been signed by Bologna, he had his feathers ruffled by the brash, no-nonsense approach of coach Luigi Maifredi and, almost before he'd had time to say arrivederci, had been rated so terrible that he was sent to graze in the quieter pastures of Swiss club St Gallen.

"The Swiss are a bit too cold for my liking," he recalls. "But I learned a great deal and I became something of an idol. More important, I regained the self-confidence which had been shattered by going to Italy when I was too young to cope."

Two seasons at St Gallen promoted him to the Swiss roll of honour with 18 goals and then 23. Then Sevilla bid £1.4m plus a basic wage of nearly £3,000 a week.

Follower

All of which was scarcely imaginable for the youngster born in the Santiago suburb of Maipu and, like most inhabitants of the Chilean capital, a keen follower of Colo Colo.

But young Ivan had to travel 1,250 km to get his first break as a pro footballer — with Cobresal, way up in the Calama copper-mining belt.

Even then he spent his first season on loan to Cobre Andinok where he hit 27 goals.

Back at Cobresal, he weighed in with 18 and a chart-topping 25 having, in the meantime, made his national team debut at the age of 19.

"More importantly, I learned how to jump for a ball and head it," he said.

Then came the moves to Italy, Switzerland and finally Spain — although Zamorano claims he lost money by turning down offers from Germany and France and opting instead to team up with fellow Chilean Vicente Cantatore.

"I feel as though I'm learning and maturing," says Zamorano, who is 24 but still lives with mum and auntie in the Andalusian capital. "I think I'm right for the big time now."

This season has been widely regarded as the supreme test for Zamorano after Toni Polster's move to Logrones.

He always played the leading role in a partnership which was disappointing last term and when attempts to sign Barticciotto from Colo Colo and Kostadinov from Porto fell through, Sevilla's new manager, Victor Esparrago, was forced to rely on Zamorano as the cutting edge to his attack.

Zamorano, ably backed by 22-year-old Ignacio Conte, outpaced and outthought Johan Cruyff's defence and ruthlessly exposed Ronald Koeman's lack of pace.

Sevilla raced into a 3-0 first-half lead, with Zamorano scoring twice and setting up the other for Conte.

Zamorano of Sevilla . . . now he's right for the big time.

Stoichkov and Eusebio pulled goals back for the champions in the second half, but when Barcelona had seven minutes to look for the equaliser, Cortijo broke down the right and, as Zubizarreta dived to cut out the seemingly-inevitable cross to Zamorano, Cortijo's shot hit his back foot and trickled into the net.

The 4-2 win, coming after an equally impressive 2-0 victory over Athletic Bilbao in San Mames on the opening day of the season, put Sevilla at the top of the table.

Faded

The fans have seen it all before. Last season Sevilla set off in hot early pursuit of Barcelona by taking 13 points from their opening eight games. But by the turn of the year Cantatore's side had amassed only five more points.

The Whites then faded badly enough to finish eighth, 19 points behind Barcelona and out of the European placings. Their Copa del Rey ambitions were then wrecked when Barcelona beat them 7-0 on aggregate in the quarter-finals.

Ivan had gone from good to terrible by scoring six times in the opening 10 games, then three in the rest of the season.

This time round, Sevilla fans hope that, having disposed of top-flight opponents such as Bilbao and Barcelona in such competent fashion, both Ivan the Terrible and his team may put together a coherent bid for a title which has eluded the club since that solitary moment of glory in 1946.

In the meantime, referees have again drawn the shortest straw. Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil is on trial for the umpteenth time after his umpteenth vitriolic attack on the men in black.

Having obliged the Atletico squad to have CORRUPCION NO emblazoned on their shirts for the photocall after local politicians had stripped him of the presidency of the basketball team, he has since been in the news for provoking civil disturbances in Marbella, where he is mayor.

On being brought to book for his latest accusations against referees he said: "We great politicians shouldn't be bothered with such pettiness."

Unfortunately, such pettiness is reaching grandiose proportions as rival clubs realise that, while Gil raves scandalously about every decision against Atletico, his team often benefit from very generous refereeing.

Ominously for the referees, other clubs are convinced that Gil's tactics are working. Johan Cruyff has embarked on a similar ref-slating campaign that has earned him a fine of £2,750.

His assistant, Carlos Rexach, sums up the situation with an old Spanish proverb: "Babies who don't cry get no milk".

BELGIUM BY GILBERT ROUSSELLE

JOHNNY BOSMAN'S arrival at Anderlecht rather overshadowed an odd transfer a few days earlier, also involving the champions.

They signed THREE players from the same club, FC Leigeois — Danny Boffin, Jean-Marie Houben and Jean-Francois de Sart.

These three, plus Bosman from PSV Eindhoven, are part of a new-look Anderlecht team determined to retain their title.

They made a good start with a 4-1 away win over Kortrijk on the first day of the new League season, but were frustrated by RC Genk's defensive tactics in their next match, and held to a 0-0 draw.

Club Brugge have a new coach, former Anderlecht player Hugo Broos. He led his new team to victory in the Belgian Super Cup, a 6-5 win on penalties over his old club, after a 3-3 draw.

Club Brugge then won 2-1 away to Standard Liege, and 5-1 at home to AA Gent, with a hat-trick from Booy.

PORTUGAL BY ALBERTO DA SILVA

BENFICA'S poor start was the major talking point in the first weeks of the Portuguese season.

A home defeat against Boavista was followed by a scrambled draw against Gil Vicente, thanks to a dubious penalty.

Then, after a 2-0 win over Guimaraes, came another draw, in the derby match against Sporting, who were much the better side.

People began to demand coach Sven-Goran Eriksson's head, resenting the sales of the Brazilians, Ricardo and Valdo, to Paris St. Germain.

Portuguese clubs are still democratically owned by the socios, the monthly fee-paying fans. They can vote in any group of directors, or vote them out. The Benfica board must be fearing a call for a general meeting and fresh elections.

Porto did not maintain their good form for long. Immediately after the Benfica game they flew to Madeira and promptly lost to Maritimo — one of the biggest surprises for years.

This could be a season of shocks, and Boavista, usually second best to Porto in their home city, look lively to have an unusually good year if their form against Benfica can be repeated.

The national team's 1-1 draw in a friendly against Austria was received with concern if not alarm.

ROMANIA BY BOB VAUGHAN

NOTHING but trouble...that sums up the present position.

The European Championship is a lost cause and fourth place above San Marino is the likely outcome.

Some honour could be saved when the Scots and Swiss visit Bucharest, but little change is likely in Sofia.

At club level, Steaua and Dinamo are seeking success with new squads. Steaua have only Dumitrescu left — everyone else is trying their luck abroad.

The crisis was brought to a head when the USA visited Brasov for one of a series of three friendlies arranged to sift the wheat from the chaff for the outstanding European games. Surprisingly 5,000 spectators turned up to see the Americans score a goal in each half, through Balboa and Murray.

Not even Lacatus could penetrate the US defence, and manager Mircea Padulescu will now have to think about putting his confidence in the young guard, Moga (20) of Dinamo and Buia (23) of FC Beira.

FRANCE BY ANDRE DUCLOS

Platini . . . lamenting the burdens of a sole selector.

A DISTANT LIGHT STILL TEMPTS PLATINI

THAT resounding 5-1 win in Poznan against a far from scratch Polish team seemed a fine hors d'oeuvres before the match that really mattered, against Czechoslovakia.

But how long will Michel Platini be prepared to stay as manager of a French team he has revitalised against all the odds?

He has never yet managed a club team, but the distant lure of Juventus, where the mighty Gianni Agnelli has kept a light burning in the window, may yet take him away from France, as he seems to admit.

Platini has in the past lamented the burdens of a sole selector, and implied that he would not shoulder them indefinitely, passing perhaps to a more powerful position in our Federation.

Meanwhile, objective as ever, he insists — as one who has taken part in great French triumphs — that our football still finds no place in what he calls "The Almanack de Gotha," where England, and even Spain, are among the Big Five "who qualify regularly for the World Cup."

That is a lot easier, now, but Platini says: "They are inscribed in history. "All we have are 1958 and the years of the eighties."

Although he puts Marseille up on the high plains with the best in Europe, after their passage to the last Champions' Cup Final, he feels that the national team are nowhere. "Not qualified for the last World Cup, and nct qualified for the last European Championships."

The most remarkable of Platini's suggestions is that the tackle be abolished! Here indeed is an old attacker speaking. He thinks tackling is out of date, that it used to have its place, but that now alas everybody tackles, even forwards.

Tackling, says Platini, means that a defender has come in late, that he hasn't anticipated.

"Me, I was for its abolition, but that would denature football." Radical suggestion indeed.

"Many players have found a place at Marseille thanks to the international team" says Platini. Which nobody can deny. But this seems to create other problems for him.

With so many Marseille players being called up by France, there's a danger that they, the bulk of the team, get used to tactics which run counter to those employed by France.

Platini says the presence of Laurent Blanc, that fine sweeper, now with Napoli, makes 4-4-2 impossible. "Blanc has exploded in the role of libero and we have had to review everything. It is a puzzle.

"All of which shows that the French national team is not closed to anyone."

But for all the progress of the side in the European Championship, Platini is still looking to the World Cup in 1994.

Note that Eric Cantona, now with Nimes, was called up for the Polish trip. Even when Cantona was out of the Marseille team, Platini never had any hesitation about picking him.

Provided he was training and fit, he could always slot into his place. And there were so few strikers in France from which to choose.

Enforced

Another interesting libero is emerging in French football, though only so far in the Second Division, with Strasbourg.

Franck Leboeuf scored twice against Bordeaux, now down among the dead, or less distinguished, men, through their enforced relegation.

He is beginning to score from open play, as well as from the free-kicks he has exploited well and often.

Leboeuf can do a great deal more than that, being technically adroit, adept in setting up attacks with long passes, and solid in his defensive duties.

HOLLAND BY SIMON KUPER

ALL OR NOTHING FOR KINGS OF EUROPE

THE coming month could make or break Dutch football for the next two years at least.

On October 16 in the European Championship, Holland play Portugal in Rotterdam — their most crucial qualifying match since they met Belgium in November 1985.

The Dutch and the Portuguese currently share first place in their qualifying group. Both have nine points from six matches.

The Dutch have a superior goal difference, but the Portuguese play Greece at home in their final qualifying match while the Dutch travel to Athens. Greece, with four points from only three matches, are potentially best-placed to win this group, but recent history suggests that they will fail.

Almost certainly the group will be decided in Rotterdam. If Holland win, they will surely qualify, since their unassailable goal difference will save them even if they lose to Greece. If Portugal, a tough defensive side, manage a draw in De Kuip or even win, they should go through.

The Dutch mood is sombre. Last month Holland drew 1-1 in a friendly against Poland in Eindhoven, and recent results in competitive matches have been even worse.

In June they drew 1-1 in Finland — that dropped point could prove fatal — and in March they needed a Marco Van Basten penalty to beat Malta 1-0 in Rotterdam. Even their 2-0 victory over Finland in April, thanks to a brilliant display by Ruud Gullit, could easily have ended in a draw.

As Holland approach the game against Portugal they can take solace from one fact at least: finally, after three injury-ridden years, all the main Dutch players are currently fit. But let's not tempt fate.

The Dutch were recently reminded of the importance of qualifying for Sweden, when they received two lucrative and flattering offers for friendly matches in wealthy spots of the globe.

Abu Dhabi are eager to host a challenge match between Holland, the European Champions, and Argentina, the winners of the Copa America, while Japan want the Dutch to play Brazil in Tokyo.

Holland owe both offers to three-year-old feats — their performances since 1988 place them no higher than the middle group of European nations. If the Dutch miss the European championships this time, their dealings with Sheikhs and company directors will be over.

Worse still, if Holland are eliminated it will mean the end of the great side of 1988. Jan Wouters is already 31; Hans Van Breukelen turns 35 this month; while Gullit and Ronald Koeman will be 31 by the time the next World Cup rolls around in 1994, and Gullit's knees may have disappeared entirely by then.

Only Marco Van Basten, still 26 despite his long c.v. has a long career ahead.

Played

Back home, the domestic table looked unfamiliar after six rounds of matches. Vitesse, Arnhem lead, with nine points from six matches, and second were RKC Waalwijk, with seven from five.

The explanation for the rule of the midgets was that Ajax and PSV have played just three matches each. Ajax have five points and PSV the full six, which suggested that before too long the usual hierarchy will be re-established.

The two clubs have played so seldom because the Dutch FA have let them travel abroad to play in lucrative friendly tournaments.

Even so, Vitesse are entitled to their glory while it lasts. The club started the season with a 3-0 away win over Den Haag, a match which was cut short midway through the second half when Den Haag's infamous fans disrupted proceedings. Vitesse then held Ajax 0-0 in Arnhem.

Their performance so impressed Roda Kerkrade's manager Adrie Koster that by his own admission he travelled to Arnhem seeking just one point. He got it, at the expense of the fans: the match ended in another 0-0 draw. Koster's defensive strategy is rare in Holland, and was embarrassing for Koster who had spent the summer announcing his plans to attack with Roda.

Van Basten . . . still only 26.

POLAND BY BOB VAUGHAN

VICTORY in a friendly against Sweden, by 2-0, partially erased memories of the 5-1 thrashing from France.

The Swedes were not at full strength, but the young Polish squad did well and gave new hope to manager Strejlau as he builds towards the critical European qualifiers against the Republic of Ireland and England.

We wait to see whether he can again do without such players as Warzycha (Everton) and Tarasiewicz (Nancy) — or perhaps Strejlau's selection was a bluff to confuse Messrs Charlton and Taylor.

Five of the nine games in the top division were drawn on day five of the championship. They included the Lodz derby, with LKS holding Widzew 1-1 despite having Nowacki sent off near the end.

Staniek scored a hat-trick in Gornik's 5-1 defeat of Pegrotour, the newcomers from Debica, and Zaglebie Sosnowiec earned their first points by beating Wroclaw.

MALTA BY SILVIO VELLA

MALTA'S Premier League is again made up of ten clubs for the new season.

Late last season already-relegated Naxxar Lions failed to take the field against Zurrieq, thus guaranteeing that the latter should stay up. The FA have now decided that Birkirkara, who would have been relegated with Naxxar, also should stay in the Premier Division.

Newcomers for this season are Mqabba Hajduks and Luxol St. Andrews, the latter making their Premier Division debut.

Floriana were the biggest spenders, making five signings — Charles Sciberras (Rabat Ajax), Albert Busuttil (Kirkop), Robert Agius (Melita), Richard Buhagiar (Mostar) and international defender John Buttigieg who returned after a two-year spell in the English Third Division, with Brentford.

HUNGARY BY BRIAN O'SULLIVAN

Changes all along the line

MTK-VM provided the first shock result of the new-look First Division (four teams, or 25 per cent, not having been there last season) by beating Kispest-Honved, the champions, 3-0 away.

The Bozsik Stadion was stunned on the 50th birthday of Dr Gyorgy Mezey, the Kispest manager, as Csaba Horvath and Gabor Poloakei (two) scored the goals.

On the same day BVSC-MAVTRANSSPED surprised Ferencvaros, drawing 0-0 in the first league match played at the Nepstadion for five years. The promoted club could not guarantee that their ground would protect the unruly element of away supporters.

Fradi, having sold Zsolt Limperger, the international defender, to Burgos, had started with a draw against Vaci Izzo, when Vasily Rats, the former Soviet international, at last made his debut. He has been joined by Szergei Kusnyocov, a defender previously at Metallurg Zaporozsje.

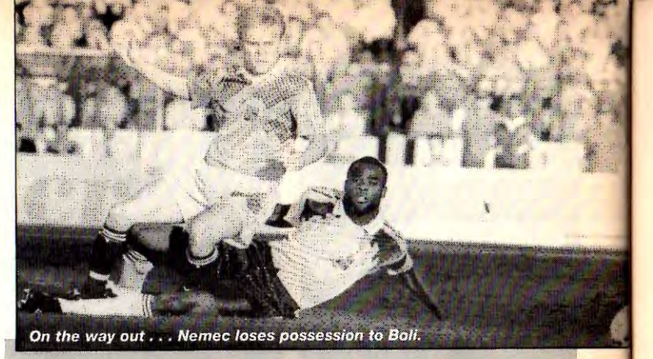
On the opening day Vasas began with ten of the players who had started their final match last season. All the other clubs, for various reasons, had only a handful; little more than half of the players fielded at kick-off then (94 out of 176) reappeared in the same colours.

There is a shift in geographical terms, too, as the only club of 16 in the east is Diosgyor VTK, of Miskolc. Three of the four teams relegated — Szeged, Debrecen VSC and Bekescsaba — were from that side of the country.

Limperger . . . now in Spain.

A total of 44 players made their debut in the top flight in the first round, including all 13 of Diosgyor. They have appointed Laszio Vlad, a 61-year-old Romanian formerly the technical director of Jiul Petrosani, to succeed another veteran, the wily Tibor Palicako.

Vasas have the most foreigners: two from the Soviet Union and one from Uruguay, Iran and Zaire. Diosgyor and Ferencvaros are next with four, both having two Romanians and two from the Soviet Union.



On the way out . . . Nemec loses possession to Boli.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY BOB VAUGHAN

Macala's dream is over

THE END of the European dream was not unexpected, but it was the last thing the country needed.

Domestic soccer is in a financial crisis and European progress seems sure to be limited, but the national team — without the injured Skuhravy — could not provide the lift everybody longed for in the vital qualifier against France.

An early lead, watched by 50,000 fans, was a good beginning in Bratislava, but the French had too much talent, even though the winner was a long time coming.

Now Milan Macala can use the last match, against Spain in Seville, to begin his experiments for the World Cup.

Pavel Kuka of Slavia, a promising striker, could be a key figure in his plans.

Ostrava, Olomouc and Slovan made the early running in the championship, all going four games without defeat.

Cheb, a very different team from 1990-91, were bottom without a point.

Ceske Budejovice had taken only one point, and the other promoted club, Tranava, had taken three, all from draws.

Gates are a continual worry. On the fourth weekend, only one topped 5,000 — Olomouc v neighbouring Hradec pulling in 6,192.

How can professional football continue in a country where only one club, Sparta, have a set-up worthy of the name?

They could even afford to turn down help from Czech-born Boris Korbel, an American citizen and a multi-millionaire.

Mr Korbel, 53, would have been welcomed by any other Czech club, but Sparta still have a healthy bank balance, from the fees for the seven players they transferred to clubs in Western Europe after the World Cup last year.

So Slavia were delighted to welcome Mr Korbel. One of the first benefits was a luxury coach, German built, and with all the trimmings, that is said to have cost more than £200,000.

Mr Korbel was a spectator at the Sparta ground when Slavia beat their old rivals 1-0, with a goal by veteran midfielder Karol Jarolim.

AUSTRIA BY ARTHUR ROTMIL

RAPID GO PUBLIC

HEADLINE-MAKERS are once again Rapid Vienna, the country's record champions (29 titles).

They are the first club in Austria to become a share holding company and hope, with the support of a private bank, to wipe out their colossal debts.

Some 60,000 shares were offered for sale to float on the Stock Exchange, each costing a thumping £50. Rapid hope to take £3 million from this initiative by their vice-president Scender Fandi, often called the "grey eminence" of Austrian football. This lawyer was also behind all the big transfers in Austria's recent history.

On the playing front Rapid, after a great start, fell away badly and suffered a 3-2 defeat at Austria Salzburg, a sort of "pensioners retreat" for former Rapid stars.

Seven of these "retired" players managed by the ex-Rapid coach Otto Baric, humiliated the league leaders. Rapid were criticised for having taken part in a tournament in Barcelona and returned tired before important league matches.

A curious development is the influx of Soviet players. Seven are active in the league which is benefitting from the introduction of a third foreigner. The clubs cannot afford home grown talent, so they buy cheaply from eastern Europe, where Soviet stars are particularly susceptible to offers from western clubs.

Stahl Linz (previously known as VOEST), have signed three Soviets while St. Polten replaced their former Argentine international Mario Kempes (37) with Yevgeni Miljevski from FK Austria. Kempes is now starring for Kremser SC.

Kempes . . . now at Kremser SC.

AUSTRIAN FIXTURES

28 SEPTEMBER
Admira Wacker v M.Vienna
Rapid Wien v Salesianer
Raika Sturm v DSV Alpine
Krems v Vorwarts
Salzburg v FK Austria
Tirol v St. Polten

5 OCTOBER
Salesianer v Krems
St. Polten v Raika Sturm
FK Austria v Rapid Wien
Vorwarts v M.Vienna
DSV Alpine v Salzburg
Tirol v Admira Wacker

19 OCTOBER
Admira Wacker v Vorwarts
Krems v FK Austria
Salzburg v St. Polten
M.Vienna v Salesianer
Rapid Wien v DSV Alpine
Raika Sturm v Tirol

26 OCTOBER
DSV Alpine v Krems
Salesianer v Vorwarts
St. Polten v Rapid Wien
Tirol v Salzburg
Raika Sturm v Admira Wacker

2 NOVEMBER
Admira Wacker v Salesianer
M.Vienna v DSV Alpine
Rapid Wien v Tirol
Vorwarts v FK Austria
Krems v St. Polten
Salzburg v Raika Sturm

9 NOVEMBER
Tirol v Krems
DSV Alpine v Vorwarts
Raika Sturm v M.Vienna
FK Austria v Salesianer
Salzburg v Admira Wacker

16 NOVEMBER
Admira Wacker v FK Austria
Vorwarts v St. Polten
Krems v Raika Sturm
Salesianer v DSV Alpine
M.Vienna v Salzburg

23 NOVEMBER
Salzburg v Krems
Tirol v Vorwarts
DSV Alpine v FK Austria
Raika Sturm v M.Vienna
St. Polten v Salesianer
Rapid Wien v Admira Wacker

30 NOVEMBER
Admira Wacker v DSV Alpine
Salesianer v Tirol
M. Vienna v Salzburg
FK Austria v St. Polten
Vorwarts v Raika Sturm
Krems v Rapid Wien

GREECE BY LOUIS ECONOMOPOULOS

DANUT LUPU, the former Romanian World Cup star, who played for Panathinaikos before being arrested and charged with leading a gang of burglars and ending up in jail, has been released and is playing for first division newcomers Korinth.

Lupu faces five years in prison if found guilty at his trial scheduled for January 9. He said: "Obviously I'm a little out of shape. But everyone here in Korinth has been so kind to me. I will do everything in my power to help them stay in the First Division".

One of the conditions of Lupu's bail is that he does not leave the country.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA FIXTURES

SEPTEMBER 29
Olomouc v Dukla
Ostrava v B. Bystrica
Presov v Bohemians
Sparta v Slovan
D. Streda v H. Kralove
Inter v Budejovice
Slavia v Vitkovice

OCTOBER 6
Dukla v Cheb
Vitkovice v Trnava
Budejovice v Slavia
H. Kralove v Inter
Slovan v D. Streda
Bohemians v Sparta
B. Bystrica v Presov
Olomouc v Ostrava

OCTOBER 20
Ostrava v Dukla
Presov v Olomouc
Sparta v B. Bystrica
D. Streda v Bohemians
Inter v Slovan
Slavia v H. Kralove
Trnava v Budejovice
Cheb v Vitkovice

OCTOBER 27
Dukla v Vitkovice
Budejovice v Cheb
H. Kralove v Trnava
Slovan v Slavia
Bohemians v Inter
B. Bystrica v D. Streda
Olomouc v Sparta
Ostrava v Presov

NOVEMBER 3
Presov v Dukla
Sparta v Ostrava
D. Streda v Olomouc
Inter v B. Bystrica
Slavia v Bohemians
Trnava v Slovan
Cheb v H. Kralove
Vitkovice v Budejovice

NOVEMBER 17
Dukla v Budejovice
H. Kralove v Vitkovice
Slovan v Cheb
Bohemians v Trnava
B. Bystrica v Slavia
Olomouc v Inter
Ostrava v D. Streda
Presov v Sparta

NOVEMBER 24
Sparta v Dukla
D. Streda v Presov
Inter v Ostrava
Slavia v Olomouc
Trnava v B. Bystrica
Cheb v Bohemians
Vitkovice v Slovan
Budejovice v H. Kralove

DECEMBER 1
H. Kralove v Dukla
Slovan v Budejovice
Bohemians v Vitkovice
B. Bystrica v Cheb
Olomouc v Trnava
Ostrava v Slavia
Presov v Inter
Sparta v D. Streda

GREEK FIXTURES

OCTOBER 13
Korinthos v Doxa
Ethnikos v Aris
Xanthi v Panionios
Athinaikos v AEK
Panseraikos v OFI
Pierikos v Panathinaikos
Apollon v Panachaiki
Larissa v Olympiakos
PAOK v Heraklis

OCTOBER 20
Ethnikos v Korinthos
Doxa v Xanthi
Aris v Athinaikos
Panionios v Panseraikos
AEK v Pierikos
OFI v Apollon
Panathinaikos v Larissa
Panachaiki v PAOK
Heraklis v Olympiakos

NOVEMBER 3
Korinthos v Xanthi
Athinaikos v Ethnikos
Panseraikos v Doxa
Pierikos v Aris
Apollon v Panionios
Larissa v AEK
PAOK v OFI
Heraklis v Panathinaikos
Olympiakos v Panachaiki

NOVEMBER 19
Athinaikos v Korinthos
Xanthi v Panseraikos
Ethnikos v Pierikos
Doxa v Apollon
Aris v Larissa
Panionios v PAOK
AEK v Heraklis
OFI v Olympiakos
Panachaiki v Panathinaikos

NOVEMBER 24
Korinthos v Panseraikos
Pierikos v Athinaikos
Apollon v Xanthi
Larissa v Ethnikos
PAOK v Doxa
Heraklis v Aris
Olympiakos v Panionios
Panachaiki v AEK
Panathinaikos v OFI

DECEMBER 8
Korinthos v Pierikos
Apollon v Panseraikos
Larissa v Athinaikos
PAOK v Xanthi
Heraklis v Ethnikos
Olympiakos v Doxa
Panachaiki v Aris
Panathinaikos v Panionios
OFI v AEK

DECEMBER 15
Apollon v Korinthos
Pierikos v Larissa
Panseraikos v PAOK
Athinaikos v Heraklis
Xanthi v Olympiakos
Ethnikos v Panachaiki
Doxa v Panathinaikos
Aris v OFI
Panionios v AEK

DECEMBER 29
Korinthos v Larissa
PAOK v Apollon
Heraklis v Pierikos
Olympiakos v Panseraikos
Panachaiki v Athinaikos
Panathinaikos v Xanthi
OFI v Ethnikos
AEK v Doxa
Panionios v Aris

JANUARY 5
PAOK v Korinthos
Larissa v Heraklis
Apollon v Olympiakos
Pierikos v Panachaiki
Panseraikos v Panathinaikos
Athinaikos v OFI
Xanthi v AEK
Ethnikos v Panionios
Doxa v Aris

JANUARY 12
Korinthos v Heraklis
Olympiakos v PAOK
Panachaiki v Larissa
Panathinaikos v Apollon
OFI v Pierikos
AEK v Panseraikos
Panionios v Athinaikos
Aris v Xanthi
Doxa v Ethnikos

JANUARY 19
Olympiakos v Korinthos
Heraklis v Panachaiki
PAOK v Panathinaikos
Larissa v OFI
Apollon v AEK
Pierikos v Panionios
Panseraikos v Aris
Athinaikos v Doxa
Xanthi v Ethnikos

JANUARY 26
Korinthos v Panachaiki
Panathinaikos v Olympiakos
OFI v Heraklis
AEK v PAOK
Panionios v Larissa
Aris v Apollon
Doxa v Pierikos
Ethnikos v Panseraikos
Xanthi v Athinaikos

FEBRUARY 2
Korinthos v Panathinaikos
OFI v Panachaiki
AEK v Olympiakos
Panionios v Heraklis
Aris v PAOK
Doxa v Larissa
Ethnikos v Apollon
Pierikos v Xanthi
Athinaikos v Panseraikos

FEBRUARY 9
OFI v Korinthos
Panathinaikos v AEK
Panachaiki v Panionios
Olympiakos v Aris
Heraklis v Doxa
PAOK v Ethnikos
Larissa v Xanthi
Apollon v Athinaikos
Pierikos v Panseraikos

FEBRUARY 16
Korinthos v AEK
Panionios v OFI
Aris v Panathinaikos
Doxa v Panachaiki
Ethnikos v Olympiakos
Xanthi v Heraklis
Athinaikos v PAOK
Panseraikos v Larissa
Apollon v Pierikos

FEBRUARY 23
Panionios v Korinthos
AEK v Aris
OFI v Doxa
Panathinaikos v Ethnikos
Panachaiki v Xanthi
Olympiakos v Athinaikos
Heraklis v Panseraikos
PAOK v Pierikos
Larissa v Apollon

MARCH 1
Korinthos v Aris
Doxa v Panionios
Ethnikos v AEK
Xanthi v OFI
Athinaikos v Panathinaikos
Panseraikos v Panachaiki
Pierikos v Olympiakos
Apollon v Heraklis
PAOK v Larissa

MARCH 8
Doxa v Korinthos
Aris v Ethnikos
Panionios v Xanthi
AEK v Athinaikos
OFI v Panseraikos
Panathinaikos v Pierikos
Panachaiki v Apollon
Olympiakos v Larissa
Heraklis v PAOK

MARCH 15
Korinthos v Ethnikos
Xanthi v Doxa
Athinaikos v Aris
Panseraikos v Panionios
Pierikos v AEK
Apollon v OFI
Larissa v Panathinaikos
PAOK v Panachaiki
Olympiakos v Heraklis

MARCH 22
Xanthi v Korinthos
Ethnikos v Athinaikos
Doxa v Panseraikos
Aris v Pierikos
Panionios v Apollon
AEK v Larissa
OFI v PAOK
Panathinaikos v Heraklis
Panachaiki v Olympiakos

MARCH 29
Korinthos v Athinaikos
Panseraikos v Xanthi
Pierikos v Ethinikos
Apollon v Doxa
Larissa v Aris
PAOK v Panionios
Heraklis v AEK
Olympiakos v OFI
Panathinaikos v Panachaiki

APRIL 5
Panseraikos v Korinthos
Athinaikos v Pierikos
Xanthi v Apollon
Ethnikos v Larissa
Doxa v PAOK
Aris v Heraklis
Panionios v Olympiakos
AEK v Panachaiki
OFI v Panathinaikos

APRIL 12
Pierikos v Korinthos
Panseraikos v Apollon
Athinaikos v Larissa
Xanthi v PAOK
Ethnikos v Heraklis
Doxa v Olympiakos
Aris v Panachaiki
Panionios v Panathinaikos
AEK v OFI

APRIL 19
Korinthos v Apollon
Larissa v Pierikos
PAOK v Panseraikos
Heraklis v Athinaikos
Olympiakos v Xanthi
Panachaiki v Ethnikos
Panathinaikos v Doxa
OFI v Aris
AEK v Panionios

MAY 3
Larissa v Korinthos
Apollon v PAOK
Pierikos v Heraklis
Panseraikos v Olympiakos
Athinaikos v Panachaiki
Xanthi v Panathinaikos
Ethnikos v OFI
Doxa v AEK
Aris v Panionios

MAY 10
Korinthos v PAOK
Heraklis v Larissa
Olympiakos v Apollon
Panachaiki v Pierikos
Panathinaikos v Panseraikos
OFI v Athinaikos
AEK v Xanthi
Panionios v Ethnikos
Aris v Doxa

MAY 17
Heraklis v Korinthos
PAOK v Olympiakos
Larissa v Panachaiki
Apollon v Panathinaikos
Pierikos v OFI
Panseraikos v AEK
Athinaikos v Panionios
Xanthi v Aris
Ethnikos v Doxa

MAY 24
Korinthos v Olympiakos
Panachaiki v Heraklis
Panathinaikos v PAOK
OFI v Larissa
AEK v Apollon
Panionios v Pierikos
Aris v Panseraikos
Doxa v Athinaikos
Ethnikos v Xanthi

MAY 31
Panachaiki v Korinthos
Olympiakos v Panathinaikos
Heraklis v OFI
PAOK v AEK
Larissa v Panionios
Apollon v Aris
Pierikos v Doxa
Panseraikos v Ethnikos
Athinaikos v Xanthi

SOVIET UNION BY BOB VAUGHAN

WHERE to start in a country with far greater preoccupations than football at the moment?

Outside is the answer, in Oslo, where the "Sbornaja" — if that is what the national team are still called, virtually ensured qualification for the European Championships, if there is then still a country to represent.

Mostovoi's goal after 74 minutes won the game, but the Soviets had a few shocks.

Now nine points from five games almost certainly leave the Hungarians and Italians, who both have to visit Moscow, too much to do. But which country will the team represent if and when victory in Group Three is confirmed?

The Ukrainian FA have announced that their clubs are playing their last season in the "All Union League", and that in 1992-93 12 of their sides currently in that competition will join six further Ukrainian clubs to form their own National League.

Four current "USSR" team players, Mikhailichenko, Yuran, Kuznetzov and Kanchelskis, are Ukrainians, and who will they represent in future?

What will happen is impossible to predict and the other members of Group Three should perhaps be keeping going, however slim the chances, just in case second place might mean getting to Euro '92.

England's planned friendly, if it takes place, will certainly have to be in Moscow and could be the last of a series begun in 1958.

In the meantime, Georgia still wait for a crucial decision by FIFA.

For Georgia, having broken away from the Soviet Football Association and formed their own federation, have not yet been accepted by the world ruling body.

But there is a strong belief within Georgia that it will not be long before their country is welcomed by FIFA and clubs such as Iberia Tbilisi — formerly known as Dinamo Tbilisi — are back in European soccer.

Finishing

For the moment, though, life is tough for Georgian Federation chairman Nodar Akhalkatsi and national team manager Giga Norakidze.

There are three divisions and four regional groups within the Georgian Federation and 107 teams competing. Iberia Tbilisi are the champions.

But the Georgian Federation had to shuffle their season to give themselves a starting date in August.

In their first season Georgia played under the Soviet system, starting in the spring and finishing in the autumn. They wanted to change that by starting in autumn and finishing in spring, so the second Georgian season was cut short.

That lasted only during the spring, allowing clubs to start a third season in August with a November — March break for the winter, and the season will finish next May.

Akhalkatsi scored a lot of goals for Army Club (Tbilisi) and Lokomotiv during his playing days, although he is now a rather portly figure. But he is still battling fiercely for the good of Georgia and soccer, saying: "the most important thing is that the Football Federation is independent.

"Russia put forward a lot of obstacles to block our progress, but the reason we parted from the Soviet FA was not to hurt anybody, but just for ourselves.

"We have our own players and we can survive and flourish on our own. Moscow try to block us by making it difficult to obtain footballs and kit etc., but we battle on. "There is no way out for us now but to win the argument."

Akhalkatsi adds: "Our football history goes back 100 years to the time when English sailors from Liverpool brought the game to us. They landed from the Black Sea in the 1890's and football grew from there.

"We have had a lot of famous footballers who grew up in Georgia and went on to play for the Soviet Union. Now we want talent for our own team.

Manager Norakidze, who has the task of forming a team able to compete in World circles when the time comes, is a former inside-forward with Spartak Tbilisi, and is rated the top coach in Georgia.

He was coach to Torpedo Kutaisi (now Kutaisi FC) and Dinamo Sokhumi (now Tskhumi) on the Black Sea.

Norakidze, now in his 60's, had success with both before becoming Georgian national team manager. Since taking that post he has had two matches in charge, drawing 2-2 against Lithuania and winning 4-2 against Maldova.

"The Soviet Union are making it difficult for our players to go out and play against teams from other countries," says Norakidze.

"But we can have a good team in the future. We have the players to do well and we can achieve some success."

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letters

We welcome your letters on any topic concerning international football. Write to: Editor's Letters, World Soccer, 25th Floor, King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street, London SE1 9LS. We regret that Information Desk queries (no long lists please) can be dealt with only through this column.

UEFA's follies

SIR — I am writing to express my disgust at the blatant inadequacy of UEFA's handling of top issues surrounding the game at club level.

In August's edition of your excellent magazine there was a piece entitled The Den Bosch Time Bomb.

It showed how bad UEFA are in coming to decisions. For example, banning Den Bosch for three years.

Another example for inadequacy was shown in 1985 when the team I support, Glasgow Celtic played in the Cup-winners' Cup against Rapid of Austria. The first leg in Vienna ended 3-1 in Rapid's favour and when they came to Glasgow they showed the dirty side of Austrian football.

From the kick-off they spat, kicked and acted their way through.

That night Celtic played their greatest game of football that season and midway through the second half they were ahead on aggregate. That was the point the Austrians showed their acting skills.

Firstly, one of them fell for no apparent reason and had to be carried off.

At that point they had already committed their two substitutes but nevertheless they still brought on another player.

They then started to walk off the pitch because a penalty had been awarded against them.

The game finished 3-0 and we were through to the last eight, or were we? Rapid lodged an appeal claiming that one of their players had been hit with a coin.

But on realising that they did not have any evidence they changed their story. They now claimed that a bottle had been thrown from the crowd.

UEFA, amazingly not suspicious to why Rapid had changed their story, ordered a replay (which Rapid won) and ordered that Celtic's next home European tie be played behind closed doors.

Come on, UEFA, get your act together and start thinking before making decisions. For every club's sake.

— MICHAEL SHIELDS, Coatbridge, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

Carlos is king

SIR — I was very surprised that Carlos Valderrama should leave Montepllier and sign for Real Valladolid for only £220,000. He is a superstar, and worth millions.

He is strong, quick, skilful, an excellent dribbler and passer. I believe he ranks alongside players such as Michailichenko, Gullit, Hagi, Valdo, Francescoli and Caniggia.

— ANDREW KAY, Prestwick, Scotland.

Wrong venue

SIR — I only recently discovered World Soccer, and must express my deepest delight in reading such an informative and truly international magazine.

I am writing in reply to Mr Kevin White in the August edition. As a keen follower of the international scene. I must express my disappointment in FIFA's decision in choosing the United States as host for the next World Cup. They simply do not deserve to host such a carnival of skill, entertainment and passion. America is not a footballing nation.

As you accurately reported in the last edition, the American Soccer league is being trimmed to only eight teams, due to financial reasons. This I presume is due to the lack of public interest.

Another fact: before the American squad set off to Italy to participate in last year's World Cup, only one out of ten people stopped in the streets could name a squad member.

There are other nations with established leagues and respected international squads that deserve such a prestigious honour. I say that thinking of African and Asian nations such as Korea, Morocco, Cameroon or Egypt.

Beating sides such as Guatemala, Honduras, Trinidad and Tobago and an off-form Mexico does not qualify America to host the World Cup or is anything to get excited about.

Keep up the good work.

— ZAIDOON, AL-ZUBAIDY, Wembley.

Radio days

SIR — I congratulate your magazine on the excellent coverage of both the final stages of the Copa Libertadores and the Copa America tournament in Chile.

As a great fan of South American, and particularly Argentine soccer, I have always admired your magazine for its coverage of football in that continent.

As I don't have a satellite dish, I wasn't able to watch Screenport's coverage of the Copa America, but I was still able to keep up with much of the action as it happened by tuning my short-wave radio to RAE, the external service of the Argentine radio. They provided live commentary, in Spanish, of all Argentina's games, and I also managed to hear coverage of the Chile-Paraguay game.

Earlier this year, I found commentary of a Boca Juniors game quite by accident one night, but I remembered the frequency (15325 kHz short-wave) and when the Copa America came around, I checked up on the kick-off times as given in your February issue, and was able to tune in to some very exciting South American action.

Having listened to the Copa America on RAE, it occurs to me that radio stations all over the world will be offering coverage of football which could be picked up in many other countries. I understand French, Spanish, some Portuguese and a little Dutch; I for one would be very interested in hearing soccer commentaries in these languages on the radio.

I am no international radio expert, so apart from the frequency for RAE, I would not know whereabouts on the radio dial to look. Therefore, I suggest that World Soccer commission an expert on international radio listening to write an article detailing when and where to find foreign radio coverage of football, as I am sure it would be of interest to many readers.

Such an article could take the form of Brian Glanville's excellent feature on sports papers around the world, which appeared in your magazine a couple of years ago.

Mention of Mr Glanville reminds me that he touched on the subject of football coverage on the radio a while back, comparing the British style of concentrating on one match with the pacier Italian style, moving coverage swiftly around the grounds to keep up with the goals scored in all the day's games; its a subject which should be gone into with greater depth in your magazine.

— M WILSON, Didsbury, Manchester

Help wanted

SIR — I have been inundated with letters from people inquiring about Spanish and Italian supporters' clubs based in the UK. Anyone with information should write as soon as possible, please.

— A M KERSHAW, The National Federation of Football Supporters' Clubs, 24a South Street, Loughborough, Leics, LE11 3EG.

Far too much

SIR — The prices some clubs are paying for players are ridiculous. Take David Platt — £5.5 million. Take Paul Gascoigne — about £8 million.

That's stupid. What has he done to be worth that money? It's the equivalent of buying 100 houses. What a waste.

— DEREK SHARRATT, Hedburgh, Scotland.

BOOK reviews

TRIUMPH, tragedy, intrigue and scandal — like every epic, the European Champions' Cup has the lot.

In **CHAMPIONS OF EUROPE,** World Soccer columnist Brian Glanville deals in his unique way with the history of the continent's most exciting competition. Glanville recalls the romance, as epitomised by Di Stefano's Real Madrid, the pragmatism of the Italians, the adjustment of the English, as well as the blackest hours, such as Munich and Heysel.

No Glanville book about the European Cup would be complete without an absorbing study of the "Years of the Golden Fix."

Recomended reading and obtainable at £12.99 from Guinness Publishing, 33 London Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

Other titles standing out on the shelves:

THE ULTIMATE FOOTBALL LEAGUE STATISTICS BOOK

By Tony Brown. £15.95 plus £1.50 postage from The Association of Football Statisticians.

' This book contains every league result from 1888 to the end of last season — and presented in a way which will suit pools enthusiasts as well as stats specialists. The book also contains a full set of league tables, a host of accumulated totals of club performance and many scoring records. The performance of every club which has ever featured in the league is included, including one-season wonders such as Bootle and Middlesbrough Ironopolis. This book may have come out just in time, considering the uncertainties surrounding the league.

SOUTH AMERICAN CUPS

By Ron Hockings. £12.95 from Articulate, 12a North Street, Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 7 DQ.

' Unique record of competitive top-level football in South America. Every result of every Libertadores Cup tie is recorded in event sequence. There are lists of championship winners from every South American country, including many of the internal states (such as in Brazil and Argentina). All the Libertadores-competing clubs are listed with their addresses. As for national team competition, every match in the 74 years of the Copa America is recorded with dates and goal-scorers. Statistical masterpiece.

BARCLAYS LEAGUE CLUB DIRECTORY

By Tony Williams. £12.95 from Football Directories, Freepost, Taunton, Somerset TA3 6BR.

' One for the good guys. Alex Ferguson, Gary Lineker, Brian Little, Stuart Pearce and Gary Mabbutt were the "good news" award-winners named to mark the 14th edition of the most comprehensive and detailed Football League clubs and squads directory. All you need: dates of birth, transfer fees, international appearances, etc.

SHOOT A-Z OF FOOTBALL RECORDS

By Ian Morrison. £8.99 from Hamlyn Publishing, Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 6RB.

' Records minor and major features from start to finish of the 157 pages — from Age to Youth Football. The "Did you know?" paragraphs dotted through the book will be a god-send for amateur quiz compilers.

GUINNESS BOOK OF SKILFUL SOCCER

By Stephen Ford and Colin Woffinden. £8.99 from Guinness Publishing, 33 London Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

' A training book which tries to break the mould of traditional manuals by developing basic techniques into real skills.

THE FOOTBALL ALMANAC

By Peter Stewart. £6.99. From Lochar Publishing, Moffatt, Scotland DG10 9ED.

' Have you ever wondered how or when your club was formed? Want a simple, pocket-book guide to their address, phone number, honours, nickname, league history and thousands of other facts and figures? This is the book for you. Every club in the English and Scottish leagues is detailed. Ideal stocking-filler.

FIT FOR THE GAME

By Theo Foley. £4.99 from Ward Lock, Villiers House, 41 Strand, London WC2N 5JE.

' Every sport uses different muscle groups and requires different physical preparation. This centres on how to exercise and get fit for soccer.

SHOOT! ANNUAL 1992

£3.95 from IPC Magazines, Holborn Publishing Group, King's Reach Tower, London SE1.

' Colourful kids' annual which starts, predictably enough, with Paul Gascoigne and races via cartoons, pictures, biographies and quizzes through the domestic leagues. "Older kids" may also be interested in some of the features — such as the insights into the world of the Rangers and Celtic kit men.

NEWS OF THE WORLD FOOTBALL ANNUAL

Edited by Albert Sewell and Bill Bateson. £3.75 from Invincible Press, Harper Collins, 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith, London W6 8JB.

' The 105th edition of football's longest-running publications. Facts and figures, dates and details. The ultimate pocket encyclopedia.

RACING AND FOOTBALL OUTLOOK ANNUAL

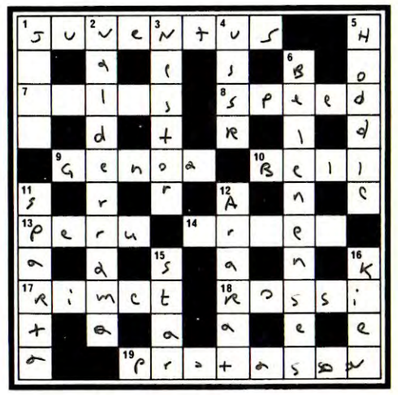
£1.75 from IPC Magazines, Holborn Publishing Group, King's Reach Tower, London SE1.

' One of the oldest-established of all soccer annuals. Traditionally, this is the bible for pools followers. But general fans will find this a handy fixtures check at a bargain price.

***** NEXT MONTH: Checking the Christmas soccer video market**

WORLD SOCCER CROSSWORD

Compiled by Christine Ansell



Clues Across

1. First winners of all three European Club competitions (8)
7. Nickname associated with Torquay United (5)
8. Leeds United forward first capped by Wales in 1990 (5)
9. City boasting the reigning Italian champions (5)
10. Cameroon 'keeper who made his name with Bordeaux (4)
13. S. American country whose League clubs include Sports Boys and Alianza (4)
14. Romanian club from Pitesti (5)
17. Frenchman lending his name to the original World Cup finals (5)
18. Leading scorer of the 1982 World Cup finals (5)
19. Soviet striker who broke Dnepr's goalscoring record in '85 (8)

Clues Down

1. Name popularly given to Scotland's Partick Thistle (4)
2. Colourful Colombian of Valladolid fame (10)
3. Forename common to Argentinians, Fabbri and Lorenzo (6)
4. Nation setting the pace in European Championship group 3 (1.1.1.1.)
5. Ex- Monaco midfielder managing Swindon Town (6)
6. Lisbon Club from the Estadio do Restelo (10)
11. Prague giants, most often Czech League champions (6)
12. Erevan club - Soviet double winners, 1973 (6)
15. Shirt emblem denoting ten Italian League title wins (4)
16. Russian city where Zavarov and Mikhailichenko played league soccer (4)

SEPTEMBER SOLUTION

ACROSS: 7.Aurau 8.Keane 9.Simpson 10.U.S.A 11.York 13.Blue 17.Kee 18.Airdrie 20.Galli 21.Deane

DOWN: 1.Ramsey 2.Fram 3.Tulsa 4.Nkono 5.Manuel 6.UEFA 12.Riedle 14.Ekeren 15.Lazio 16.Brady 17.Kogl 19.Real

Results

FRIDAY, JULY 26
Jul 26 = Cairo - African Nations qual gp 2
Egypt 2 (Ibrahim Youssef 44, Abdelghani 66)
Tunisia 2 (Mahjoubi 46, 60)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 65,000.

SATURDAY, JULY 27
Jul 27 = Lagos - African Nations' qual gp 4
Nigeria 7 (Sansom Siasia 14, Rachidi Yekini 13pen, 69, 71, 80, Friday Elahor 74, George Sinidi 88)
Burkina Faso 1 (Mbemba Toure 20)
HT: 2-1.

SUNDAY, JULY 28
Jul 28 = Yaounde - African Nations qual gp 1
Cameroon 1 (Omam Biyik 10)
Guinea 0
HT: 1-0.

Jul 28 = Abidjan - African Nations qual gp 3
Ivory Coast 2 (Sao Lacina 24, Ab Traore 52)
Morocco 0
HT: 1-0.

July 28 = Cotonou - African Nations qual gp 4
Benin 0
Ghana 0
Att: 12,000.

Jul 28 = Lusaka - African Nations qual gp 5
Zambia 1 (Musonda 89)
Angola 0
HT: 0-0

Jul 28 = Nairobi - African Nations qual gp 6
Kenya 2 (Motego 13, Okoth 70)
Sudan 1 (Abdel Faraj 87)
HT: 1-0.

Jul 28 = Libreville - African Nations qual gp 8
Gabon 0
Zaire 0
Att: 50,000. **Ref:** Batsimba Mebiama.
Gabon: Mendome - Angoue (Mabouela 75), Ngoulakia, Ndone, Nzeng - Amegasse, Aubame, Ondo, Aguikyzo - Anotho (Nzemba 50), Manon.
Zaire: Mermkani - Ndinga, Bazaula, Nkongolo, Buvana - Kigambo (Mayenga 70), Makonga, Malukula - Kabongo, Ekele (Balenga 46), Lutonadia.

MONDAY, JULY 29
Jul 29 = Zomba - African Nations' qual gp 7
Malawi 2 (Rzwodzi og 20, Chimodzi 86)
Zimbabwe 2 (Nagoli 13, Ndlovu 89)
HT: 1-1.

Jul 29 = Dar es Salaam - African Nations' qual gp 8
Tanzania 1
Uganda 1
HT: 1-1.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8
Aug 8 = Oslo - intl friendly
Norway 1 (Leonhardsen 13)
Sweden 2 (Roland Nilsson 16, Limpar 40)
HT: 1-2. **Att:** 9,421. **Ref:** Dellwing (G)
Norway: Rossbach - Tore Pedersen (Ahlsen 78), Bratseth, Lydersen (R Nilsen 37), Halle (R Johnsen 74), Loken, Leonhardsen, Bohinen (Riisnaes 46), J I Jakobsen, Sorloth, Dahlum.
Sweden: Ravelli - Gren, *P Larsson, Eriksson, R Nilsson, Thern, Brolin (Hakan Mild 85), Ingesson, Limpar (Rehn 65), K Andersson, Dahlin (Erlingmark 74). *P Larsson sent off, 60min.

Sweden won this friendly despite having veteran central defender Peter Larsson on the hour. It was the first time Norway had lost in almost a year under Per Egil Olsen.

Aug 8 = Aosta (Italy) - Torneo della Val d'Aosta
Czechoslovakia 0
Yugoslavia 0
Ref: Sguizzato. **Att:** 2,000.
Czechoslovakia 4-3 on pens
Czechoslovakia: Vencel - Jurasko, Nemecek, Nemec, Cerny, Frydek (Kotulek 77), Rusnak (Hapal 65), Suchopalek, Glonek, Latal, Kristofik (Pavlik 78).
Yugoslavia: Omerovic (Lekovic 72) - Stanojkovic, Milanic, Novak, Hadzibegic, Najdoski, Bazdarevic (Mijatovic 59), Savicevic (Jokanovic 46), Pancev (Lukic 59), Stojkovic, Jugovic.

This international, played as part of the Baretti Memorial Tournament, ended in chaos. Neither of the teams knew a penalty shoot-out was obligatory after a draw and had to be recalled to the pitch by referee Sguizzato. Milanic with the first penalty and Mijatovic, with the fifth, were the Yugoslavs who let the side down.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 14
Aug 14 = Poznan - intl friendly
Poland 1 (Ziober 18)
France 5 (Sauzee 41, Papin 44, Simba 68, Blanc 69, Perez 77)
HT: 1-2. **Att: . Ref:** Spirin (SU).
Poland: Wandzik (Sidorczuk 46) - Kubicki, Lesiak, Jakolcewicz, Soczynski, R Warzycha (Rzepka 66), Czachowski, Tarasiewicz, Ziober, Urban, Kosecki (Skriska 73).
France: Martini - Amoros (Garde 75), Casoni (Silvestre 79), Blanc, Boli, Angloma, Sauzee, Fernandez (Deschamps 46), Papin, Duran (Perez 55), Simba.

France not only extended their unbeaten record since March 8, 1989, to 16 matches they underlined how well Michel Platini's revival is working. Poland began well with the French-based Tarasiewicz creating Poland's goal for another French-based star, Ziober. Tarasiewicz missed a penalty before France found ther feet. Once Franck Sauzee had equalised, the visitors took over. Jean-Pierre Papin snatched the lead just before the break and newcomer Simba, a delicate effort from Laurent Blanc and a further strike from Christian Perez wrapped up the scoring.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21
Aug 21 = Gdansk - intl friendly
Poland 2 (Wojciech Kowalczyk 59, Miroslaw Trzeciak 89)
Sweden 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 7,000. **Ref:** Van den Wijngaert (Bel)
Poland: Bako - Grembowski, Waldach, Czachowski, Soczynski, Rzepka (Trzeciak 58), Skrzypczak, Nawrocki, Mielcarski (Fedoruk 58), Kosecki (Wegrzyn 83), Kowalczyk.
Sweden: Ravelli - Eriksson (M Nilsson 69), Gren, P Larsson, Ljung, Erlingmark, Rehn, Mild (Gudmundsson 82), J Nilsson, Dahlin, Martinsson (Sjellstrom 82).

Newcomers Kowalczyk and Trzeciak scored the goals which cheered up Poland coach Andzrej Strejlau after the thrashing at home to France a week earlier.

Aug 21 = Prague - intl friendly
Czechoslovakia 1 (Milan Luhovy 18)
Switzerland 1 (Kubilay Turkyilmaz 25)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Wiesel (G)
Czechoslovakia: Kouba - Kocian, Jurasko, Hapal, Tittel, Nemec, nemecek (Frydek 46), Moravcik (Pecko 75), Fryda (Kuka 51), Danek, Luhovy (Cerny 80).
Switzerland: Huber - Hottiger, Sforza, Schepull, Herr (Gamperle 59), Ohrel, Bickel (Bonvin 60), Hermann, A Sutter (Heldmann 80), Chapuisat (B Sutter 66), Turkyilmaz.

A draw was a fair result on a day when Czechoslovakia missed knee injury victim Tomas Skuhravy, while Switzerland were short of four regular first-teamers. Luhovy put the Czechoslovaks into an early lead but Switzerland hit back within seven minutes when Heinz Hermann, playing his 114th international, laid on an equaliser for Turkyilmaz.

Aug 21 = Stara Zagora - intl friendly
Bulgaria 0
Turkey 0
Att: 5,000. **Ref:** Assenmacher (G)
Bulgaria: Aneviev - Hubchev, Zvetanov, Ivanov, Mladenov - Dinov, Mitev (Petrov 81), Angelov - Lechkov (Iliev 62), Vasiliev, Yotov (Dobrovski 31).
Turkey: Hayrettin - Bulent, Gokhan, Turan - Recep, Riza, Muhammed, Oguz (Mehmet 46), Tugay - Tanju (Umit 75), Orhan.

Bulgaria's new boss, Dimiter Penev, was whistled off the pitch at the end after a match in which the Turks had four "goals" disallowed for offside.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28
Aug 28 = Oslo - Euro chp gp 3
Norway 0
Soviet Union 1 (Alexander Mostovoi 74)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 25,427. **Ref:** King (Wal).
Norway: Thorstvedt - Lydersen, Tore Pedersen, Bratseth, Roger Nilsen (Riisnaes 66), Lokken, Halle, Leonhjardsen, J I Jakobsen (Skammelsrud 80), Sorloth, Fjortoft.
Sov Union: Cherchesov - Chernishov, Kulkov, Tsveiba, Oleg Kuznetsov, Shalimov, Mikhailichenko, Kancheliskis (Korneyev 71), Aleinikov, Kolivanov, Yuran (Mostovoi 46).

The Soviet Union's national soccer team are still on course for next year's European finals in Sweden whatever doubts may be cast by political events. Manager Anatoli Bishovets recalled six foreign-based players and insisted that political events "had not distracted my players from the match." Norway have yet to beat the Soviets in 12 full internationals. Their chances this time were destroyed after 74 minutes by substitute midfielder Mostovoi with a close-range effort. A capacity crowd saw create a number of chances. But Oldham defender Gunnar Halle wasted the best when he shot against a post after 57 minutes. Norway coach Egil Olsen said: "We created more chances than they did. I'm very disappointed with the result."

Aug 28 = Brasov - intl friendly
Romania 0
United States 2 (Marcelo Balboa 40, Bruce Murray 58)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 5,000. **Ref:** Heinemann (G).
Romania: Prunea (Stelea 46) - Manaila, Emil Sandoi, Adrian Popescu, Munteanu, Vlaicu, Mateut (Moga 46), Ion Timofte II (Buia 59), Lacatus, Balint (Pigulea 59), Dumitrescu (Badea 46).
United States: Meola - Balboa, Armstrong, Clavijo, Quinn, Caligiui, Henderson (Snyder 63), Michalik, Wynalda (Kinnear 57), Perez, Murray.

Headed goals from World Cup men Balboa and Murray brought the touring Americans the first victory of their trip after defeats by the Soviet Olympic team and the Austrian club, FC Tirol. Romania dominated the early stages but lost heart when the US went ahead just before the interval - Balboa heading home after an acrobatic cross from Clavijo. Bruce Murray extended the American lead with his 16th international goal from another header after 58 minutes. Romania tried hard for an equaliser but were foiled by several fine saves from US keeper Tony Meola.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4
Sep 4 = Bratislava - Euro chp gp 1
Czechoslovakia 1 (Vaclav Nemecek 21)
France 2 (Jean-Pierre Papin 53, 89)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 50,000. **Ref:** Mikkelsen (Den).
Czechoslovakia: Miklosko - Kocian, Tittel, Novotny, Knoflicek (Hapal 80), Kristofik (Frydek 22), Nemecek, Moravcik, Nemec, Pecko, Pavel Kuka.
France: Martini - Blanc - Amoros, Angloma (Durand 76), Boli, Casoni - Deschamps, Sauzee - Papin, Cocard (Perez 46), Vahirua.

France virtually assured themselves of a place in next year's European finals in Sweden. Michel Platini's men need only a draw against Spain next month. They had started hesitantly. Manuel Amoros failed to clear his own lines properly and Nemecek moved in for the kill. Basile Boli 'helped' deflect the shot wide of keeper Martini. Papin equalised shortly after half-time as he volleyed home a long cross from Perez. In the last minute Papin seized both points for France when he converted a Vahirua pass from close range. The Czechs were without regular first-teams because of illness rather than anything else.

Sep 4 = Oviedo - intl friendly
Spain 2 (Rafael Martin Vazquez 8, Manolo 18)
Uruguay 1 (Alvaro Gutierrez 66)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 21,600. **Ref:** Vilinberg (Hol)
Spain: Zubizarreta (Buyo 83) - Sanchis, Abelardo, Solozobal, Michel, Eusebio, Martin Vazquez (Christobal 46), Vizcaino (Ferrer 48), Goikoetxea (Alvaro 76), Manolo (Berto 56), Butragueno.
Uruguay: Alvez - Rosa, Revelez, Ostolaza, Moas, Dos Santos, Fraccia (Cebres 79), Matosas, Castro (Gutierrez 65), Mendez, Aguirre.

Spain discovered, happily, that old habits die hard. It took only eight minutes from Martin Vazquez to put them ahead after a move masterminded by his former Real Madrid youth and senior colleagues, Emilio Butragueno and Michel. Manolo increased Spain's lead after a free kick. Peter Mendez, now playing in the Spanish championship for Mallorca, was Uruguay's best forward though it was Gutierrez who snatched the consolation goal. Spain's victory marked a welcome start for new manager Vicente Miera.

Sep 4 = Stockholm - intl friendly
Sweden 4 (Martin Dahlin 20, 69, Anders Limpar 51, Jonas Thern 84)
Yugoslavia 3 (Dejan Savicevic 33, 66, Mikael Nilsson og 75)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 11,510. **Ref:** Delmer (F)
Sweden: Ravelli - Jan Eriksson, Mikael Nilsson, Peter Larsson, Roland Nilsson, Brolin, Thern, Limpar, Ingesson, Dahlin, Kennet Andersson.
Yugoslavia: Ivkovic - Milanic, Hadzibegic, Najdoski, Branco Brnovic (Babunski 46), Jokanovic (Kodro 79), Djukic, Bazdarevic, Vujacic, Savicevic, Pancev.

Sweden won an entertaining match. But the shadow of uncertainty hung over the game. Yugoslavia are favourites to qualify for the finals in Sweden next year. But this friendly may be as close as they come if the political unrest cannot be contained. Yugoslavia's squad, for instance, featured players from all six republics including one from Croatia and two from Slovenia. But four Croatians, from Hajduk Split, had all apparently refused to travel to Stockholm. Dahlin shot Sweden ahead after 20 minutes, with Red Star's Savicevic equalising in the 33rd. Arsenal's Anders Limpar restored Sweden's lead in the 51st minute but Savicevic again pulled Yugoslavia on terms, this time from a free kick. Dahlin picked up a loose ball to score from close range in the 69th minute only for a Mikael Nilsson own goal to bring the Slavs back on terms. Yugoslavia might easily have won. They struck the posts twice and the bar once. But the winning goal fell to Sweden, six minutes from the end, when Benfica's Jonas Thern drove a fierce shot beyond keeper Ivkovic from 30 yards.

Sep 4 = Istanbul - intl friendly
Turkey 1 (Erdal Keser 31)
United States 1 (Frank Klopas 83)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 10,000. **Ref:** Petrovic (Yug)
Turkey: Hayrettin - Gokhan, Bulent, Riza, Tugay, Turan, Ugur (Mohammed 46), Unal, Orhan (Oguz 85), Tanju (Metin 68), Erdal.
US: Meola - Clavijo, Armstrong, Balboa, Doyle, Caligiuri (Trittschuh 79), Perez, Murray, Quinn, Henderson (Wynalda 46), Klapos.

Turkey appeared well on the way to victory when Erdal Keser scored after 31 minutes. He might have scored a second but Des Armstrong cleared off the goal-line. Then, two minutes from half-time, Tony Meola in the US goal made a superb save from Gokhan Keskin, who shot from the edge of the six-yard box. The US attacked more persistently in the second half. Frank Klopas, specially released by his Greek club AEK, missed from close range in the 52nd minute, then Eric Wynalda forced a fine save from keeper Hayrettin Demirbas after 55 minutes. Eventually American pressure paid off after 83 minutes when Klopas equalised on a pass from fellow striker Brian Quinn. The other American who managed to obtain special release for this last tour match was Orgryte defender John Doyle.

Sep 4 = Athens - intl friendly
Greece 0
Albania 2 (Kusta 37, 85)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 4,000. **Ref:** Vasilakis (Gr)
Greece: Papadopulos - Apostolakis (Karataidis 46), Karageorgiu (Tursunidis 72), Kaitzakis, Mitsibonas, Tsaluhidis (Kofidis 67), Saravakos (Sofianopulos 81), Marinakis, Borbokis (Dimitriadis 61), Karapialis (Noplias 46), Athanasiadis.
Albania: Strakossia - Memussi (Kocia 46), Giantenta, Lekbello, Tao, Cipi, Kushta, Milori, Milo, Barbalussi, Kolia.

Albania surprised the Greeks thanks to their own Trojan Horse. He was midfielder Kushta, who plays now in Greece for Iraklis of Salonika, and scored both goals.

Sep 4 = Reykjavik - intl friendly
Iceland 0
Denmark 0
Att: 4,000.

Sep 4 = Oporto - intl friendly
Portugal 1 (Rui Barros 30)
Austria 1 (Kogler 70)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 12,000. **Ref:** Garcia de Loza (Sp)
Portugal: Vitor Baia - Samuel - Joao Pinto, Fernando Couto, Leal - Rui Barros, Oceano (Veloso 46), Nelo - Sousa (Domingos 46), Rui Aguas (Pacheco 46), Futre (Cesar Brito 72).
Austria: Konsel (Konrad 46) - Bauer - Artner, Kogler, Resch - Prosenik, Stoger, Zsak, Feiersinger (Pacult 62) - Herzog, Westerthaler (Pfeifenberger 62).

Portugal started well and faded; Austria began at sixes and sevens and steadily improved. Austria manager Alfred Riedl said: "Portugal look good - but not as good as they think they are."

Sep 4 = Abidjan - West Africa (CEDEAO) Cup
Ivory Coast 1 (Ossery 12)
Benin 0
HT: 1-0.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11
Sep 11 = Bern - Euro chp gp 2
Switzerland 2 (Stephane Chapuisat 30, Heinz Hermann 39)
Scotland 2 (Gordon Durie 47, Ally McCoist 83)
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 48,000. **Ref:** Lanese (It).
Switzerland: Huber - Hottiger, Ohrel, Herr, Sforza, Heldmann (B Sutter 64), Knup, Hermann, Turkyilmaz, A Sutter (Bickel 60), Chapuisat.
Scotland: Goram - McKimmie (McClair 66), Boyd, McPherson, Malpas, Strachan, McCall, Nicol, Johnston (McAllister 40), Durie, McCoist.

Scotland fought back superbly in the second half after goals from Chapuisat and Hermann had given the Swiss a half-time lead. McCoist's ninth goal for Scotland brought his team-mates within sight of the finals of the European championship for the first time.

Sep 11 = Landskrona (Swe) - Euro chp gp 4
Faroe Islands 0
Northern Ireland 5 (K Wilson 7, Colin Clarke 13, 49, 70pen, McDonald 15)
HT: 0-3. **Att:** 1,623. **Ref:** Ruokonen (Fin).
Faroes: Knudsen - J Jakobsen (K Morkore 78), T E Hansen, Danielsen, Thomassen (Muller 51), *A Morkore, Nielen, Dam, A Hansen, Reynheim, Jonsson. *A Morkore sent off, 67min.
N Ireland: Wright - Donaghy, Morrow, Taggart, McDonald, Magilton, Dennison, K Wilson (O'Neill 70), Dowie, Clarke, Black (McBride 70).

Colin Clarke's hat-trick brought him within one goal of the 12-goal Northern Ireland international scoring record. The Faroes showed none of the spirit which had marked their displays last season.

Sep 11 = Luxembourg - Euro chp gp 5
Luxembourg 0
Belgium 2 (Enzo Scifo 23, Marc Degryse 48)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 9,000. **Ref.** Harrel (Fr).
Luxembourg: Van Rijswijck - Jeitz, Bossi, Petry, Wolf, Mirsens - Girres, Hellers, Groff, Langers (Thome 66) - Morocutti (Krings 77).
Belgium: Preud'homme - Grun (Medved 75), Van der Elst, Demol (Dauwen 79), Borkelmans - Emmers, Staelens, Scifo, Vervoort - Degryse, Nilis.

Luxembourg were without three regulars but still managed a moral victory. Enzo Scifo headed Belgium into the lead with Degryse scoring a second shortly after the interval. Belgium manager Paul Van Himst admitted: "We didn't play well. But Luxembourg are hard to manoeuvre when they're at home."

Sep 11 = Oporto - Euro chp gp 6
Portugal 1 (Cesar Brito 22)
Finland 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 30,000. **Ref:** Martine (Swz).
Portugal: Vitor Baia - Joao Pinto, Samuel, Fernando Couto, Jose Leal - Veloso, Cesar Brito (Cadete 80), Rui Barros, Rui Aguas (Oceano 56), Futre, Manuel Guimaraes.
Finland: Huttunen - Tainainen (Vurela 59), Holmgren, Heikkinen, Petaja, Pavola, Myyry, Ukkonen (Litmanen 72), Jarvinen, Tarkkio, Patelainen.

Portugal provided a victory for new manager Carlos Queiroz in his first competitive match in charge. Paulo Futre was the man of the match and repeatedly sliced through the Finland defence. Had Portugal taken all the chances he offered, they could have made life much easier for themselves in the later stages.

Sep 11 = Wembley - intl friendly
England 0
Germany 1 (Riedle 44)
HT: 0-1. **Att:** 59,493. **Ref:** Spirin (SU).
England: Woods - Dixon, Dorigo, Batty, Pallister, Parker, Platt, Steven (Stewart 66), Alan Smith, Lineker, Salako (Merson 66).
Germany: Illgner - Binz, Brehme, Kohler, Effenberg, Buchwald, Moller, Hassler, Riedle, Matthaus, Doll (Klinsmann 80).

One of the most entertaining of internationals for a long time ended in deserved victory for the German World Cup-holders. Skipper Lothar Matthaus was superb, commanding the midfield throughout the second half. England might have changed all that in the first 25 minutes when the recast German defence was trying to find its feet. Effenberg twice presented England with excellent openings through careless backpasses. When England's defence fell into confusion, however, the Germans pounced. Thomas Doll wriggled in from the byline, beat Salako and crossed for Riedle to head home from close range. The finest moment of the match came midway through the second half when Matthaus shot from 30 yards and Chris Woods produced a marvellous save, leaping to his left.

Sep 11 = Gyor - intl friendly
Hungary 1 (Kalman Kovacs 50')
Rep Ireland 2 (David Kelly 51, Kevin Sheedy 70)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 4,000.
Hungary: Petry - Monos (Rugovics), Lipcsei, L Disztl, Csehi - Kozma, Lorincz, Detari, E Kovacs (Berczy) - K Kovacs, Vincze (Eszenyi).
Rep Ireland: Bonner - Irwin, McCarthy, O'Leary, Phelan (Morris) - Houghton, Keane, Sheridan (McLaughlin), Sheedy - Quinn, Kelly (Aldridge).

The Irish were deserved winners of a match which got off to a sluggish start.

Sep 11 = Cardiff - intl friendly
Wales 1 (Saunders 58)
Brazil 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 20,000. **Ref:** Soriano Aladren (Sp).
Wales: Southall - Pembridg, Bodin (Bowen 67), Aizlewood, Melville, Ratcliffe (Maguire 87), Pascoe (Hodges 76), Horns, Saunders, Hughes, Speed.
Brazil: Taffarel - Cafu (Cassio 59), Cleber, Marcio Santos, Mauro Silva, Jorginho, Moacir (Valdeir 59), Geovani (Mazinho II 72), Careca, Bebeto, Joao Paulo.

Brazil, under caretaker manager Ernesto Paulo, looked shadows of themselves and Wales deserved victory, though manager Terry Yorath was cautious. He said: "It's the next one (against Germany in the European championship) that we really want to win," he said.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
Sep 14 = A J Simeon Stadium/High Point, N Carolina - II Carolina Challenge
United States 1 (Gjonbalaj 38)
Jamaica 0
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 9,128. **Ref:** Osborne (Ber).
US: Dodd - Banks, Ciavijo, Fraser, Caligiuri, Sliviniski (Vargas 46), Quinn, Henderson (Benedict 46), Perez, Acosta (Cruz 46), Gnonbalaj (Jonas 46).

Last year the United States won the first Carolina Challenge by defeating Trinidad and Tobago 3-0 in front of an 11,000 crowd. This year the US dominated again. Sadri Gjonbalaj, making his first full US appearance since 1986, scored the decisive goal - heading home a Hugo Perez free kick.

OTHER MATCHES
Aug 2 (Veterans Stadium, Philadelphia): United States 2 (Murray 52, Quinn 60), Sheffield Wednesday 0.
Aug 17 (Moscow): Sov Union Olympic XI 2 (Nikeferov 11, Tedeyev 56), United States 1 (Perez 81).
Aug 21 (Innsbruck): FC Tirol 4 (Pacult 29, 66, Westerthaler 85, Renato 87), United States 0.- (Siany) Czechoslovakia Olympic XI 4, Switzerland B 0.
Aug 27 (Hanko): Finland Olympic XI 1, Greece Olympic XI 0.

PANAMERICAN GAMES
(In Cuba)
Group A: Mexico 6, Haiti 1; Cuba 4, Nicaragua 1; Mexico 6, Nicaragua 0; Cuba 2, Haiti 2; Haiti 10, Nicaragua 0; Cuba 0, Mexico 0. **Group B:** US 1, Surinam 0; Honduras 3, Canada 1; Surinam 3, Canada 1; Honduras 1, Surinam 1; US 3, Canada 1; US 2, Honduras 1. **Semi-finals:** Mexico 6, Honduras 1; US 2, Cuba 1. **Third pl:** Cuba 1, Honduras 0. **Final (Aug 13):** United States 2 (Reyna 34, Moore 95), Mexico 1 (Mariscal 16), after extra time.

MEDITERRANEAN GAMES
Third place: Morocco 3, Yugoslavia 2. **Final:** Greece 3, Turkey 1.

CLUB TOURNAMENTS
Trofeo Bernabeu (Madrid): Real Madrid 6, Colo Colo 1.

Makita Tmt (Highbury, London): Sampdoria 6, West Ham 1; Arsenal 1, Panathinaikos 0.
Third pl: Panathinaikos 1, West Ham (3-2 pens).
Final: Sampdoria 1, Arsenal 1 (3-2 on pens).

Juan Gamper (FC Barcelona): Marseille 2, Internacional PA 1; Barcelona 4, Rapid 1.
Third pl: Internacional 2, Rapid 0. **Final:** Barcelona 3, Marseille 0.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICAN RESULTS AND TABLES

CONCACAF CLUB CHAMPIONS TROPHY
Central American zone semi-finals
July 17.
In San Pedro Sula, Honduras (1st leg)
REAL ESPANA (Honduras) 2 (Castillo, Aguirre)
LIGA ALAJUELENSE (Cost Rica) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Mario Escobar (Guat). **Att:** 5,500.
Real Espana: Cruz, Hernandez, Castro, Bonilla, Soto, Gonzalez, Castillo, Funez, Rolland, Contreras, Ortega (Aguirre).
Liga Alajuelense: Rojas, Solano (Arguedas), Berry, Peinado, Valverde, Smith, Delgado, Chaco, Ramirez (Fernandez), Guillen, Quiroz.

Real Espana, coached by Brazilian Favio Ortega, who was in charge of the Honduras national team which took second place in this year's first CONCACAF nations championship, won after Liga attacked more, but with high balls and were soon controlled. Liga's passing was also slow.
July 21.
In San Salvador, El Salvador (1st leg)
LUIS ANGEL FIRPO (El Salvador) 1 (Arce)
SAPRISSA (Costa Rica) 1 (Hilario)
HT: 0-0.
Firpo: C. Rivera, N. Rivea, Carcamo, Trigueros, Estrada, Guelmo (De Mello), Lazo, Cienfuegos, Menjivar, Diaz Arce, De Moura.
Saprissa: Fuentes, Sanchez, Roger Flores, Camacho, Diaz, Gonzalez, Guimares (Segura), Salazar, Jaikel, Coronado (Rolando Flores), Hilario.

Firpo were well on top in the goalless first half while Saprissa fought back after the interval to score first with Firpo equalizing 10 minutes from the end.
July 28.
In San Jose, Costa Rica (2nd leg)
SAPRISSA (Costa Rica) 3 (Hilario, Gonzalez, Fonseca)
LUIS ANGEL FIRPO (El Salvador) 0
HT: 1-0.

Both teams played defensively in the first half which was even, but the winners were well on top in the second half. Saprissa won 4-1 on aggregate.

PAN AMERICAN GAMES soccer tournament (in Havana, Cuba, Aug. 2-18)
Group A: Mexico 6 Haiti 1; Cuba 4 Nicaragua 1; Mexico 6 Nicaragua 0; Cuba 2 Haiti 2; Haiti 10 Nicaragua 0; Cuba 0 Mexico 0.
Group B: USA 1 Surinam 0; Honduras 3 Canada 1; Honduras 1 Surinam 1; USA 3 Canada 1; Surinam 3 Canada 1; USA beat Honduras.
Final group standings
Group A:

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Mexico	3	2	1	0	12	1	5
Cuba	3	1	2	0	6	3	4
Haiti	3	1	1	1	13	8	3
Nicaragua	3	0	0	3	1	20	0

Group B:

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
USA	3	3	0	0	6	3	6
Honduras	3	1	1	1	5	3	3
Surinam	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
Canada	3	0	0	3	3	9	0

Semi-finals: Mexico 6 Honduras 1; USA 2 Cuba 1.
Final: USA 2 Mexico 1. **3rd place:** Cuba 1 Honduras 0.

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT - CONCACAF zone Third round - group B:
July 14 - El Salvador w/o. (2) Trinidad & Tobago (0); July 28 - Trinidad & Tobago 2 El Salvador 0.Third round - group C: June 23 - USA 8 Haiti 0; July 14 - Panama 1 USA 1; July 20 -USA 7 Panama 1.
Group standings:
Group B:

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Canada	3	2	0	1	7	3	4
El Salvador	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Trinidad-Tobago	4	1	0	3	2	8	2

Group C:

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
USA	3	2	1	0	16	2	5
Panama	2	0	1	1	2	8	1
Haiti	1	0	0	1	0	8	0

Winner of each group qualifies for final round - top two qualify for Olympic Games.

MAJOR CLUB INTERNATIONALS
August 4 - Newell's Old Boys (Argentina) 0 Penarol (Uruguay) 0; August 21 - Universidad Catolica (Chile) 1 Velez Sarsfield (Argentina) 2.

SOUTH & CENTRAL AMERICAN LEAGUE TABLES
BRAZIL: State Championships:
Guanabara (Rio de Janeiro): 1) Vasco da Gama 9 points; 2) America (Rio) 5; 3) Portuguesa 4; 4) Flamengo, Itaperuna, Bangu, Camp Grande 3; 8) Botafogo, Fluminense, Americano 2; 11) America (Tres Rios), Volta Rendonda 1. (1st round - winner qualifies for final round title playoff).
Sao Paulo: Green Group: 1) Portuguesa 11 pts; 2) Palmeiras, Corinthians, Guarani 10; 5) XV de Piracicaba 9; 6) Ferroviaria, Santos, Novorizontino 8; 9) Botafogo, Ituano, Bragantino, Mogi Mirim 7; 13) XV de Jau, America 5.
Yellow Group: 1) Sao Paulo 13; 2) Internacional, Soacarlense 11; 4) Santo Andre 10; 5) Ponte Preta, Noroeste 9; 7) Marilia, Uniau Sao Joao 8; 9) Olimpia, Sao Bento 7; 11) Rio Branco 5; 12) Juventus, Sao Jose 5; 14) Catanduvense 3. (Top five of green group and top three of yellow group qualify for second round).

PARAGUAY: First Division
(1st round - final):1) Olimpia 18 points; 2) Cerro Cora 14; 3) Atletico Colegiales 13; 4) Sportivo Luqueno 12 (on goals); 5) Cerro Porteno, Guarani, Libertad 12; 8) River Plate 11; 9) Sol de America 8; 10) San Lorenzo, Nacional 7; 12) Sport Colombia 6. (Top four qualify for final round with bonus points of 1, 3/4, 1/2 and 1/4 respectively).

COLOMBIA:
Reclassification tournament:

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Millonarios	19	10	7	2	27
Bucaramnaga	20	10	6	4	26
At. Junior	20	9	5	6	23
America	19	8	6	5	22
Quindio	20	9	4	7	22
Union Magdalena	19	8	6	5	22
Nacional	20	7	8	5	22
Indep. Santa Fe	19	9	3	7	21
Indep. Medellin	20	8	5	7	21
Dep. Cali	19	5	8	6	18
Sp. Barranquilla	20	6	5	9	17
Pereira	19	4	7	8	15
Caldas	19	5	5	9	15
Tolima	19	0	11	8	11
Cucata	20	1	8	11	10

ECUADOR: First Division (2nd stage)
Group A: 1) Emelec 7 pts; 2) Barcelona, Cuenca 6;4) Delfin 5; 5) Liga Universitaria 4; 6) Universidad Catolica 1.**Group B:** 1) Tecnico Universitario, Dep. Quito 7; 3) Valdez 6; 4) Nacional 5; 5) Green Cross 4; 6) Juventil 2.

BOLIVIA; National Championship
(2nd stage) Section A: 1) San Jose 6 pts; 2) Oriente Petrolero 5; 3) Bolivar 3; 4) Orcobol 0. **Section B:** 1) The Strongest, Blooming, Independiente Petrolero 4; 4) Petrolero 2.

HONDURAS: First Division: 1) Real Espana 20 pts; 2) Motagua 16; 3) Olimpia, Vida 15; 5) Marathon 12; 6) Platense 11; 7) Victoria, Super Estrella 10; 9) Petrotela 9; 10) Atletico Indio 8.

COSTA RICA: First Division: 1) Alajuelense 60 pts; 2) Puntarenas 58; 3) Saprissa, Uruguay 48; 5) Turrialba 43; 6) Herediano, Cartajines 39; 8) San Carlos, Guanacaste 37; 10) Limon, Palmares, Generalena 27.

CHILE: First Division:

	P	W	D	L	Gf	Ga	Pts
Coquimbo	12	7	4	1	2	27	
Univ. Catolica	12	8	1	3	29	19	17
Concepcion	12	6	4	2	19	13	16
Antofagasta	12	5	6	1	9	6	16
Colo Colo	11	6	2	3	23	12	14
O'Higgins	12	5	3	4	18	15	13
La Serena	12	4	3	5	18	23	11
Palestino	12	3	5	4	18	23	11
Univ. Chile	11	4	2	5	14	12	10
Cobreloa	12	5	0	7	18	15	10
Everton	11	4	2	5	10	14	10
Fernandez Vial	12	3	3	6	6	11	9
Cobresal	12	3	3	6	16	17	9
Union Espanola	11

Results

EUROPEAN LEAGUE RESULTS

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 21
FRANCE
Marseille 1 (Papin, pen), **Lille 0**
Montpellier 1 (Ziober), **Monaco 4** (Passi 2, Djorkaeff, Weah)
Auxerre 3 (Roche, Kovacs, Otokore), **Rennes 1** (Colin)
Nancy 1 (Gava), **Cannes 0**
Le Havre 1 (Danek), **Lyon 0**
Toulouse 0, Caen 0
Nantes 0, Paris SG 0
Lens 0, Metz 2 (Huysman, Calderaro)
St. Etienne 3 (Kastendeuch, pen, Mege, Corroyer) **Toulon 1** (Corroyer, og)
Sochaux 1 (Sylvestre), **Nimes 1** (Tittel)

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, JULY 28
AUSTRIA
Midweek
Stahl Linz 2, Aus. Vienna 1
Salzburg 1, Sturm Graz 0
Kremser SC 2, Vienna 2
FCS Tirol 4, DSV Alpine 0
Rapid 2, SK Steyr 0
Admira W. 3, St Polten 0
Weekend
Vorwarts 0, Kremser SC 1
Sturm Graz 0, Rapid 1
Aus. Vienna 3, Salzburg 2
DSV Alpine 1, FC Stahl Linz 1
Vienna 0, Admira W. 0
St Polten 2, FCS Tirol 1

FRANCE
Cannes 2, Montpellier 0
Rennes 0, Nantes 1
Monaco 4 (Passi, pen, Weah 2, Rui Barros, pen), **Nancy 1** (Gava)
Nimes 2 (Cucciuffo, Cantona, pen), **Toulouse 2** (Hyravy, pen, Marcico)
Caen 1 (Paille, pen), **St. Etienne 0**
Toulon 0, Lens 1 (Boli)
Metz 3 (Gaillot, Calderaro, Kubik), **Sochaux 1** (Caveglia)
Paris SG 1 (Bravo), **Auxerre 1** (Ferreri)
Lille 0, Le Havre 0
Lyon 1 (Bouafia), **Marseille 1** (Papin)

SWITZERLAND
Midweek
Aarau 4, Grasshoppers 0
Lugano 3, Lucerne 2
Neuchatel 0, Sion 2
St. Gallen 0, Lausanne 2
Servette 2, Young Boys 0
FC Zurich 1, Wettingen 1
Weekend
Young Boys 0, Zurich 2
Sion 0, Aarau 1
Lausanne 2, Neuchatel 1
Grasshoppers 5, St. Gallen 0
Lucerne 1, Servette 0
Wettingen 3, Lugano 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 4
AUSTRIA
Sturm Graz 2, Vienna 1
DSV Alpine, Rapid 5
Aus. Vienna 2, Kremser SC 1
St Polten 1, Salzburg 2
FCS Tirol 4, Stahl Linz 3
Vorwarts 4, Admira W. 1

FRANCE
Midweek
Monaco 3 (Djorkaeff, Robert, Weah), **Rennes 1** (Baltazar, pen)
Marseille 2 (Sauzee, Papin, pen), **Metz 0**
Auxerre 1 (Mahe), **Toulon 0**
Nantes 1 (Youm), **Lille 2** (Assadourian, Brisson)
Lens 0, Caen 0
Le Havre 1 (Danek), **Cannes 0**
St. Etienne 3 (Cuervo, Tholot, Gros), **Nimes 0**
Toulouse 2 (Bancarel 2), **Sochaux 1** (Weber)
Montpellier 1 (Divert), **Paris SG 1** (Perez)
Nancy 0, Lyon 0
Weekend
Caen 1 (Paille), **Auxerre 0**
Rennes 1 (Baltazar), **Marseille 2** (Pele, Papin)
Paris SG 1 (Fournier), **Le Havre 1** (Tiehi)
Sochaux 1 (Caveglia), **St. Etienne 0**
Metz 4 (Calderaro, Kubik, Chanlot, Romano), **Toulouse 0**
Toulon 0, Nantes 2 (Burruchaga, Youm)
Lille 2 (Frandsen 2), **Nancy 1** (Sechet)
Nimes 0, Lens 2 (Bocande, Laigle)
Lyon 1 (Bouafia), **Montpellier 0**

GERMANY
Duisburg 2 (Toennies 2), **VfB Stuttgart 0**
Leverkusen 1 (Jorginho), **Borussia Mg 0**
Bochum 2 (Epp, Bonan), **Koln 2** (Ordenewitz, Banach)
Dyn. Dresden 0, Kaiserslautern 1 (Dooley)
Schalke 0, Hamburg 0
Fortuna D. 1 (Schreier), **E. Frankfurt 2** (Moeller, Sippel)
Hansa Rostock 4 (Weichert 2, Sedlacek, Spies, pen), **Nurnberg 0**
W. Bremen 1 (Rufer), **Bayern 1** (Laudrup)
Karlsruhe 2 (Hermann, Schol), **B. Dortmund 2** (Chapuisat, Breitzke)
Stuttgart K. 3 (Tattermusch, Kula, Marin), **Wattenscheid 0**

SWITZERLAND
St. Gallen 0, Sion 2
Aarau 0, Lausanne 3
FC Zurich 0, Lucerne 1
Servette 1, Wettingen 1
Lugano 1, Young Boys 4
Neuchatel 0, Grasshoppers 1

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 11
ENGLAND
Charity Shield: Arsenal 0, Tottenham 0.

FRANCE:
Marseille 0, Paris SG 0
Monaco 1 (Weah), **Lyon 0**
Nancy 1 (Morgante), **Metz 3** (Romano, Gaillot, Calderaro, pen)
Le Havre 0, Rennes 0
Nantes 2 (Ferri, Burruchaga), **Caen 1** (Avenet)
Auxerre 0, Nimes 0
Cannes 1 (Daniel), **Lille 1** (Da Silva)
Lens 1 (Gillot), **Sochaux 1** (Caveglia, pen)
St. Etienne 2 (Tholot 2), **Toulouse 1** (Marcico)
Montpellier 1 (Djaffo), **Toulon 0**

Brian Irvine on target for Aberdeen.

GERMANY
Midweek:
Supercup final: Kaiserslautern 3, Werder Bremen 1.

Weekend:
Wattenscheid 3 (Sane 2, Schupp, pen), **Leverkusen 0.**
Borussia Mg 0, Duisburg 0.
Hamburg 2 (Sporl, Nando), **Dyn. Dresden 0.**
B. Dortmund 2 (Mill 2), **W. Bremen 1** (Allofs)
Bayern 1 (Wohlfarth), **Hansa Rostock 2** (Sedlacek, Wahl)
Nurnberg 3 (Eckstein, Oechler, Wueck), **Fortuna D. 1** (Schreier, pen)
E. Frankfurt 5 (Kruse, Sippel, Moeller 2, Kruse), **Schalke 0**
Kaiserslautern 1 (Hotic), **Bochum 1** (Tuerr)
Koln 0, Stuttgart K. 0
VfB Stuttgart 1 (Walter), **Karlsruhe 0**

SCOTLAND
Airdrie 1 (Lawrence), **Aberdeen 2** (Irvine, Gillhaus).
Dundee Utd 3 (O'Neill 2, 1 pen, Ferguson), **Celtic 4** (Nicholas, Coyne, Collins 2).
Dunfermline 1 (Farmingham), **Hearts 2** (Crabbe, Robertson).
Falkirk 1 (Stainrod) , **Motherwell 1** (Nijholt, pen).
Hibernian 4 (Weir 2, McGinlay 2), **St Mirren 1** (Irvine).
Rangers 6 (Johnston 2, Hateley 3, Ferguson), **St Johnstone 0.**

SWITZERLAND
Midweek:
Grasshoppers 1, Servette 0
Lausanne 4, Lugano 0
Lucerne 3, St. Gallen 0
Sion 2, FC Zurich 1
Wettingen 0, Neuchatel 4
Young Boys 5, Aarau 0
Weekend:
St Gallen 1, Wettingen 0
FC Zurich 1, Lausanne 1
Servette 0, Sion 2

Bundesliga action between Fortuna Dusseldorf and Eintracht Frankfurt.

Aarau 2, Lucerne 0
Lugano 2, Grasshoppers 2
Neuchatel 3, Young Boys 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 18
BELGIUM
Standard 1, Club Bruges 2
Charleroi 3, Ekeren 1
Mechelen 1, Lokeren 1
Cercle Bruges 0, FC Liege 0
Ghent 1, Lierse 1
Antwerp 3, Aalst 0
Genk 1, Waregem 0
Kortrijk 1, Anderlecht 4
Molenbeek 1, Beveren 0

ENGLAND , Division I
Arsenal 1 (Merson), **QPR 1** (Bailey)
Chelsea 2 (Elliott, Allon), **Wimbledon 2** (Fashanu, Earle)
Coventry 0, Man. City 1 (Quinn)
Liverpool 2 (Houghton, Barnes), **Oldham 1** (Barrett)
Man. Utd. 2 (Hughes, Robson), **Notts Co. 0**
Norwich 2 (Fleck 2), **Sheff. Utd 2** (Deane, Hill)
N. Forest 2 (Clough, Jemson), **Everton 1** (Pearce, og)
Sheff. Wed. 2 (Hirst, Wilson), **Aston Villa 3** (Regis, Atkinson, Staunton)
Southampton 2 (Shearer, Hall), **Tottenham 3** (Lineker 2, Durie)
West Ham 0, Luton 0

FRANCE
Paris SG 2 (Perez, Simba), **Monaco 0**
Metz 1 (Huysmann), **St Etienne 0**
Nimes 0, Nantes 0
Toulon 4 (Marquet 2, Rhinan, Anziani), **Le Havre 0**
Sochaux 1 (own goal), **Auxerre 0**
Lille 1 (Frandsen), **Montpellier 0**
Toulouse 1 (Demol), **Lens 1** (Laigle)
Lyon 0, Cannes 0
Rennes 3 (Delamontagne, Colin, Baltazar), **Nancy 1** (Rabe)
Caen 1 (Pickeu), **Marseille 3** (Papin 2, Pele)

GERMANY
Midweek
Bochum 2, Hamburg 3
Dyn. Dresden 2, E. Frankfurt 1
Karlsruhe 2, Borussia Mg 0
Duisburg 0, Wattenscheid 0
Schalke 1, Nurnberg 0
Dusseldorf 0, Bayern Munich 1
Hansa Rostock 5, B. Dortmund 1
W. Bremen 1, Stuttgart 1
Stuttgart K. 0, Leverkusen 1
Koln 1, Kaiserslautern 1

HOLLAND
MVV 0, Fort. Sittard 0
VVV Venlo 1 (Langerak), **Roda JC 3** (Hofman, pen, Ogechukwu 2)
PSV 2 (Ellerman, Kieft), **Utrecht 1** (Roest, pen)
Groningen 1 (Djurovski, pen), **Willem II 0**
RKC Waalwijk 2 (Decheiver 2), **De Graafschap 1** (Van de Brink)
Feyenoord 1 (Kiprich, pen), **Twente 0**
Volendam 1 (Clayton), **Sparta 1** (Sandel)

PORTUGAL
Benfica 0, Boavista 1
Un. Madeira 1, Penafiel 0
Braga 2, Gil Vicente 1
Beira Mar 1, Salgueiros 1
Chaves 1, Estoril 0
Famalicao 1, Guimaraes 4
Pacos Ferreira 1, Torreense 1

SWITZERLAND
Grasshoppers 3, FC Zurich 1
Lausanne 4, Servette 0
Lugano 0, Sion 0
Lucerne 1, Neuchatel 1
Wettingen 2, Aarau 2
Young Boys 0, St. Gallen 0

WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 25
BELGIUM
Waregem 1, Molenbeek 0
Aalst 0, Kortrijk 1
Genk 0, Anderlecht 0
Lierse 0, Antwerp 1
Club Bruges 5, Ghent 1
FC Liege 0, Standard 0
Lokeren 2, Cercle Bruges 2
Ekeren 0, Mechelen 1
Beveren 0, Charlerol 0

ENGLAND
Midweek
Everton 3 (Ward 2, Cottee), **Arsenal 1** (Winterburn)
Leeds 1 (McAllister), **N. Forest 0**
Notts Co. 1 (Yates), **Southampton 0**
Sheff. Utd 1 (Beesley), **West Ham 1** (Small)
Aston Villa 0, Man. Utd 1 (Bruce, pen)
Coventry 5 (Gallacher 2, Rosario, Smith, Furlong), **Luton 0**
Man. City 2 (White 2), **Liverpool 1** (McManaman)
Oldham 3 (Marshall, Holden, Currie), **Chelsea 0**
QPR 0, Norwich 2 (Gordon, Newman)
Weekend:
Aston Villa 3 (Staunton, pen, Penrice, Daley), **Arsenal 1** (Smith)
Everton 0, Man. Utd 0
Leeds 1 (Hodge), **Sheff. Wed. 1** (Hirst)
Luton 0, Liverpool 0
Man. City 3 (Brennan 2, White), **Crystal P. 2** (Thomas, Bright)
Notts Co. 0, N Forest 4 (Crosby, Charles, Sheringham, Keane)
Oldham 2 (Marshall, Barrett), **Norwich 2** (Crooke, Newman)
QPR 1 (Wegerle), **Coventry 1** (Gynn)
Sheff. Utd 0, Southampton 2 (Shearer, Le Tissier)
Tottenham 1 (Lineker), **Chelsea 3** (Dixon, Wilson, Townsend)
Wimbledon 2 (Earle, Fashanu), **West Ham 0**

FRANCE
Lens 1, St. Etienne 1
Montpellier 0, Rennes 0
Monaco 1 (Weah), **Lille 0**
Auxerre 3 (Dutuel, Ferreri, Cocard), **Toulouse 0**
Nantes 4 (Lima, Desailly 2, Burruchaga), **Metz 1** (Calderaro)
Marseille 4 (Deschamps, Pele 2, Papin, pen), **Nimes 2** (Touron, Bernardet)
Le Havre 1 (Moreau), **Sochaux 0**
Nancy 0, Toulon 0
Cannes 1 (Zidane), **Paris SG 1** (Ricardo)
Lyon 2 (Masson, Bouderbala), **Caen 2** (Pickeu, Gorter)

GERMANY
Midweek
Borussia Mg 0, W. Bremen 2
B. Dortmund 3, Fortuna D. 1
Bayern 3, Schalke 2
Nurnberg 1, Dyn. Dresden 1
Leverkusen 2, Duisburg 1
E.Frankfurt 2, Bochum 1
Hamburg 1, Koln 1
Kaiserslautern 4, Stuttgart K 3
VfB Stuttgart 3, Hansa Rostock 0
Wattenescheid 1, Karslruhe 1
Weekend
Dyn. Dresden 0, Bayern 2 (Labbadia, Wohlfarth)
Fortuna D. 0, VfB Stuttgart 3 (Sammer, Frontzeck, Gaudino)
Schalke 5 (Anderbreugge, Guettler pen, Luginger, Schlipper, Sandascheid), **Borrussia D. 2** (Schulz, Chapulsat)
Hansa Rostock 2 (Spies, Persigehi), **Borussia Mg 1** (Fach)
W. Bremen 2 (Harttgen, Bode), **Wattenscheid 2** (Schupp pen, Fink)
Karlsruhe 0, Leverkusen 0
Kaiserslautern 0, Hamburg 0
Koln 1 (Ordenwitz pen), **E. Frankfurt 1** (Kruse)
Bochum 0, Nurnberg 3

HOLLAND
Midweek
Ajax 3 (Van Loen, Bergkamp, pen, Winter), **Volendam 0**
Den Haag 0, Vitesse 3 (Cocu, Loeffen 2)
Twente 1 (Mulder), **MVV 0**
Willem II 4 (Meijs, Stewart, Feskens, Hofstede), **VVV Venlo 0**
Roda JC 1 (Ogechukwu), **SVV Dord. 90 0**
De Graafachap 0 Groningen 0
Weekend
SVV Dordrecht 6 (Barandee pen, Trustfull, Gorre, Wouden, Simons, Tabbenhoff), **VVV Venlo 1** (Garenstein)
De Graafachap 2 (Koolhof, Leeuwerik pen), **Den Haag 4** (Van der Laan pen 2, Van Eijkeren 2)
RKC 2 (Dechelver 2), **Fort. Sittard 2** (Sneekee, Boogera)
Vitesse 0, Ajax 0
Twente 0,Volendam 1 (Clayton, pen)
Sparta 0, Feyenoord 0

PORTUGAL
Boavista 3, Beira Mar 2
Gil Vicente 0, Benfica 1
Maritimo 1, P. Ferreira 0
Penafiel 1, Farense 0
Salgueiros 1, Un. Madeira 0
Estoril 0, Porto 2
Torreense 0, Chaves 1
Sporting 3, Famalicao 0

SCOTLAND
Airdrie 0, Motherwell 1 (Nijholt, pen)
Aberdeen 1 (Gillhaus), **Celtic 0**
Hibernian 1 (Weir), **Dundee Utd 0**
St Mirren 0, Falkirk 0
Rangers 4 (Huistra, Johnston, Spencer, McCoist), **Dunfermline 0**
St. Johnstone 0, Hearts 1 (Levein)

SWITZERLAND
Aarau 0, Lugano 0
Grasshoppers 3, Lucerne 1
Lausanne 3, Young Boys 3
Neuchatel 3, FC Zurich 0
St Gallen 2, Servette 4
Sion 5 Wettingen 0

EUROPEAN TABLES

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
FK Austria	12	7	4	1	26	13	18
Salzburg	12	8	1	3	20	11	17
Stahl Linz	12	6	4	2	17	10	16
Tirol	12	6	3	3	29	19	15
Rapid	12	6	2	4	22	11	14
Admira	12	5	4	3	13	9	14
Sturm Graz	12	5	1	6	14	15	11
Vorwarts	12	4	1	7	14	16	9
St Polten	12	3	3	6	12	16	9
Kremser SC	12	3	2	7	12	21	8
Vienna	12	2	4	6	9	25	8
DSV Alpine	12	1	3	8	7	29	5

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Andlerlecht	6	4	2	0	11	3	10
Brugge	5	4	1	0	16	5	9
Mechelen	6	4	1	1	10	7	9
Genk	6	3	1	2	9	4	7
Lokeren	6	2	3	1	9	6	7
Standard	6	2	3	1	6	5	7
Cercle	6	2	3	1	12	11	7
Waregem	6	3	0	3	9	9	6
Beveren	6	2	2	2	9	6	6
Gent	6	2	2	2	9	11	6
Antwerp	5	2	2	1	5	4	5
Lierse	6	1	3	2	4	5	5
RWDM	6	2	0	4	5	11	4
Ekeren	6	1	2	3	5	9	4
Kortrijk	6	1	2	3	6	14	4
Liege	6	0	4	2	2	5	4
Charleroi	6	1	1	4	5	9	3
Aalst	6	1	1	4	2	10	3

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
CSKA	5	5	0	0	17	1	10
Botev	5	3	1	1	10	3	7
Lok Plovdiv	5	3	1	1	10	3	7
Lok Sofia	5	2	2	1	6	4	6
Slivin	5	2	2	1	5	5	6
Berna	5	3	0	2	3	5	6
Levski	5	2	1	2	6	4	5
Etar	5	1	3	1	4	4	5
Slavia	5	1	2	2	7	5	4
Chernomorets	5	2	0	3	7	8	4
Pirin	5	1	2	2	5	8	4
Hebur	5	0	4	1	3	6	4
Mineur	5	1	2	2	3	11	4
Lok GO	5	0	3	2	3	5	3
Yantra	5	1	1	3	3	9	3
Dobroudja	5	1	0	4	3	13	2

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Olomouc	6	4	2	0	15	4	10
Slovan	6	4	2	0	11	4	10
Slavia	6	4	1	1	15	4	9
Banka Bystrica	6	3	3	0	13	4	9
Sparta	6	4	1	1	12	5	9
Presov	6	4	1	1	9	7	9
Inter B	6	3	2	1	12	2	8
Banik Ostrava	6	3	2	1	14	7	8
Dac Dun Streda	6	3	0	3	12	8	8
Dukla	6	2	2	2	8	9	6
Bohemians	6	1	2	3	7	10	4
Trnava	6	0	4	2	3	12	4
Spartak HK	6	0	2	4	1	10	2
C. Budejovice	6	0	1	5	3	18	1
Vitkovice	6	0	1	5	5	21	1
Cheb	6	0	0	6	2	17	0

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Monaco	10	9	0	1	22	7	18
Marseille	10	7	2	1	18	8	16
Paris SG	10	4	6	0	10	4	14
Nantes	10	5	3	2	12	6	13
Metz	10	6	1	3	17	12	13
Auxerre	10	4	3	3	11	7	11
Caen	10	4	3	3	14	12	11
Lille	10	4	3	3	7	7	11
Lens	10	2	6	2	6	6	10
Le Havre	10	3	4	3	5	8	10
Nimes	10	3	4	3	11	15	10
Montpellier	10	3	3	4	10	12	9
St Etienne	10	3	2	5	10	9	8
Lyon	10	2	4	4	6	7	8
Toulouse	10	2	4	4	9	17	8
Cannes	10	2	3	5	12	13	7
Toulon	10	3	1	6	10	14	7
Sochaux	10	2	3	5	9	14	7
Rennes	10	1	3	6	7	15	5
Nancy	10	1	2	7	8	21	4

GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Eintracht F	9	5	2	2	22	10	12
Stuttgart	9	5	2	2	14	5	12
Hamburg	9	4	4	1	10	8	12
Kaiserslautern	9	4	3	2	14	8	11
Leverkusen	9	3	5	1	7	7	11
Hansa Rostock	9	4	2	3	16	12	10
Bayern Munich	9	4	2	3	10	9	10
Schalke	9	4	2	3	13	13	10
Karlsruhe	9	3	4	2	12	13	10
B Dortmund	9	4	2	3	17	19	10
MSV Duisburg	8	3	3	2	12	10	9
Numberg	9	3	3	3	14	13	9
St Kickers	8	3	2	3	13	13	8
Werder Bremen	9	2	4	3	14	11	8
Bochum	9	2	3	4	12	16	7
Dresden	9	3	1	5	7	12	7
Koln	9	0	7	2	8	14	7
Wattenscheid	9	1	4	4	10	15	6
Borussia Mg	9	2	1	6	7	14	5
F Dusseldorf	9	1	2	6	10	20	4

GREECE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Panathinaikos	3	2	1	0	10	0	5
Pierikos	3	2	1	0	5	1	5
Olympiakos	3	2	0	1	6	3	4
PAOK	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Iraklis	3	2	0	1	4	4	4
OFI Crete	3	1	1	1	6	2	3
Apollon	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Larissa	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Doxa Drama	3	1	1	1	4	2	3
Aris	3	1	1	1	2	4	3
Panserraikos	3	1	1	1	5	5	3
AEK	3	1	1	1	4	5	3
Panachaiki	3	1	1	1	1	3	3
Xanthi	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Panionios	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Corinthos	3	1	0	2	3	10	2
Athinaikos	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
Ethnikos	3	0	1	2	1	6	1

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Vitesse	7	4	3	0	12	3	11
RKC	7	3	3	1	16	12	9
PSV Eindhoven	4	4	0	0	12	5	8
Feyenoord	5	3	2	0	5	1	8
Twente	7	3	2	2	8	5	8
Sparta	7	3	2	2	12	13	8
Ajax	4	3	1	0	11	1	7
Utrecht	6	2	3	1	8	6	7
Volendam	7	3	1	3	10	9	7
Willem II	7	2	2	3	10	9	6
SVV/Dordrecht	7	2	2	3	14	14	6
MVV Maastricht	7	2	2	3	5	8	6
Roda	7	2	2	3	7	11	6
Fortuna S	7	0	5	2	8	13	5
Groningen	5	1	2	2	6	8	4
Den Haag	5	1	2	2	7	11	4
De Graafschap	8	1	1	6	6	14	3
VVV Venlo	7	0	1	6	2	16	1

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Vac	4	3	1	0	10	3	7
Siofok	4	3	0	1	8	4	6
MTK VM	4	2	1	1	6	3	5
Ujpesti	4	1	3	0	7	5	5
Haladas	4	2	1	1	6	4	5
Honved	4	2	1	1	7	6	5
Ferencvaros	4	1	3	0	4	3	5
Pecs	4	2	1	1	3	2	5
Vasas	4	2	0	2	6	5	4
BVSC	4	1	2	1	3	4	4
Veszprem	4	2	0	2	3	4	4
Raba Eto	4	1	1	2	5	6	3
Tatabanya	4	0	2	2	3	7	2
Videoton	4	0	2	2	1	5	2
Zalaegerszeg	4	0	1	3	2	6	1
Diosgyor	4	0	1	3	2	9	1

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Milan	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
Juventus	3	2	1	0	3	1	5
Inter	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Genoa	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
Parma	3	1	2	0	4	3	4
Lazio	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Napoli	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Roma	3	2	0	1	2	1	4
Sampdoria	3	1	1	1	5	4	3
Torino	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Foggia	3	1	1	1	3	2	3
Fiorentina	3	1	0	2	4	4	2
Cagliari	3	1	0	2	3	4	2
Atalanta	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Bari	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Ascoli	3	0	1	2	1	3	1
Cremonese	3	0	1	2	0	3	1
Verona	3	0	0	3	0	5	0

LUXEMBOURG

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Spora	4	3	1	0	8	3	7
Jeunesse	3	2	1	0	9	1	5
Union	3	2	1	0	7	0	5
Avenir	4	1	3	0	8	4	5
Swift H	4	2	1	1	6	5	5
Red Boys	4	1	1	2	7	11	3
Aris	4	0	3	1	3	8	3
Wiltz	4	1	0	3	5	10	2
Wormeldange	4	0	2	2	4	9	2
Grevenmacher	4	0	1	3	1	7	1

MOROCCO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
El Jadida	3	2	1	0	3	0	8
Royal Army	3	2	1	0	6	3	8
Rabat	3	1	2	0	5	2	7
Raja Cas	3	1	2	0	2	1	7
Marrakesh	3	1	2	0	4	3	7
Settat	3	1	1	1	3	3	6
Kenitra	3	1	1	1	3	3	6
Agadir	3	1	1	1	2	2	6
Fez	3	1	0	2	3	3	5
Tihad Cas	3	0	2	1	0	1	5
Khouribga	3	0	2	1	2	4	5
Benu Mellal	3	0	2	1	3	5	5
Oujda	3	0	2	1	2	3	5
Tangier	2	0	1	1	2	3	3
Olympic Cas	2	0	1	1	2	4	3
Wydad Cas	1	0	1	0	0	0	2

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Boavista	4	3	0	1	7	4	6
Chaves	4	3	0	1	4	4	6
Guimaraes	4	2	1	1	7	5	5
Benfica	4	2	1	1	3	1	5
Salgueiros	4	2	1	1	4	4	5
Porto	3	2	0	1	7	1	4
Sporting	3	1	2	0	4	1	4

OLYMPIC QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT: (REST OF WORLD)

Extra-preliminary matches (Europe):
11.09.90 Liechtenstein v Austria 0-6
16.10.90 Austria v Liechtenstein 10-0

CONCACAF

Group: Caribbean Zone - 3rd Round
(2 Teams Qualify)
Group winners & best runner-up go through
Group A
01.09.91 Surinam v Mexico
05.09.91 Honduras v Mexico
11.09.91 Mexico v Honduras
18.09.91 Mexico v Surinam
24.09.91 Honduras v Surinam
06.10.91 Surinam v Honduras

Group B
05.05.91 Canada v Trin. & Tobago 3-0
12.05.91 El Salvador v Canada 3-1
19.05.91 Trin. & Tobago v Canada 1-3
14.07.91 El Salvador v Trin. & Tobago# 2-0
28.07.91 Trin. & Tobago v El Salvador 2-0
31.08.91 Canada v El Salvador
#= walkover.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Canada	3	2	0	1	7	3	4
El Salvador	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Trin. & Tobago	4	1	0	3	2	8	2

Group C
23.06.91 United States v Haiti 8-0
14.07.91 Panama v United States 1-1
20.07.91 United States v Panama 7-1
26.08.91 Haiti v United States 0-2
21.09.91 Panama v Haiti
01.10.91 Haiti v Panama

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
United States	4	3	1	0	18	2	7
Panama	2	0	1	1	2	8	1
Haiti	2	0	0	2	0	10	0

United States qualify for 3rd Round.

ASIA
3 participants to qualify
West-Central Asia - 1st Round
Group A
30.08.91 Yemen v Pakistan
Qatar v Iran
06.09.91 Iran v UAE
Yemen v Qatar
13.09.91 Pakistan v Qatar
UAE v Yemen
18.09.91 Yemen v Iran
Pakistan v UAE
23.09.91 Qatar v UAE
Iran v Pakistan
28.09.91 Pakistan v Yemen
Iran v Qatar
04.10.91 UAE v Iran
Qatar v Yemen
09.10.91 Qatar v Pakistan
Yemen v UAE
14.10.91 Iran v Yemen
UAE v Pakistan
20.10.91 UAE v Qatar
Pakistan v Iran

Group B
(Tournament in Hyderabad, India)
04.08.91 Oman v India 1-1
05.08.91 Lebanon v Syria 0-1
07.08.91 Kuwait v Oman 1-0
09.08.91 Syria v Kuwait 1-1
08.08.91 Lebanon v India 3-1
10.08.91 Oman v Lebanon 1-0
11.08.91 Syria v India 1-0
12.08.91 Lebanon v Kuwait 1-2
13.08.91 Oman v Syria 0-0
14.08.91 Kuwait v India 2-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Kuwait	4	3	1	0	6	3	7
Syria	4	2	2	0	3	1	6
Oman	4	2	1	1	2	1	5
Lebanon	4	1	0	3	4	5	2
India	4	0	0	4	2	7	0

Kuwait qualify for 2nd Round.

Group C
(Tournament in Bahrain)
19.09.91 Bahrain v Sri Lanka
21.09.91 S. Arabia v Jordan
23.09.91 Bahrain v Jordan
25.09.91 Sri Lanka v S. Arabia
27.09.91 Jordan v Sri Lanka
S. Arabia v Bahrain
Afghanistan withdrew.

EAST-ASIA
1st Round
Group D
1st Leg (S Korea/Seoul)
18.05.91 S Korea v Philippines 10-0
Bangladesh v Thailand 2-3
20.05.91 Malaysia v Philippines 5-0
Bangladesh v S Korea 0-6
22.05.91 Bangladesh v Malaysia 0-1
Thailand v S Korea 1-2
24.05.91 Thailand v Malaysia 4-1
Philippines v Bangladesh 8-0
26.05.91 Philippines v Thailand 1-7
S Korea v Malaysia 0-0

2nd Leg (Malaysia/Kuala Lumpur)
29.06.91 Malaysia v Thailand 1-0
S Korea v Philippines 7-0
01.07.91 S Korea v Malaysia 2-0
Thailand v Bangladesh 4-0
03.07.91 Bangladesh v S Korea 0-1
Philippines v Malayasia 0-5
05.07.91 Philippines v Bangladesh 0-3
Thailand v S Korea 0-2
07.07.91 Thailand v Philippines 6-0
Malaysia v Bangladesh 0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
S Korea	8	7	1	0	30	1	15
Thailand	8	5	0	3	25	9	10
Malaysia	8	4	1	3	13	7	9
Bangladesh	8	3	0	5	14	15	6
Philippines	8	0	0	8	1	51	0

South Korea qualify for 2nd round
Group E
1st Leg
(N Korea/Pyongyang)
15.08.91 N Korea v Nepal 5-0
Maldives v China 0-12
17.08.91 Singapore v N Korea 0-2
Nepal v Maldives 0-1
19.08.91 N Korea v Maldives 4-0
China v Singapore 3-0
21.08.91 Nepal v China
Maldives v Singapore
23.08.91 Nepal v Singapore
China v N Korea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
N Korea	3	3	0	0	11	0	6
China	2	2	0	0	15	0	4
Maldives	3	1	0	2	1	16	2
Singapore	2	0	0	2	0	5	0
Nepal	2	0	0	2	0	6	0

2nd Leg
(China/Beijing)
26.08.91 N Korea v Nepal
Maldives v China
28.08.91 Singapore v N Korea
Nepal v Maldives
30.08.91 N Korea v Maldives
China v Singapore
01.09.91 Nepal v China
Maldives v Singapore
03.09.91 Nepal v Singapore
China v N Korea

Group F
08.06.91 Hong Kong v Taiwan 1-1
09.06.91 Indonesia v Japan 1-2
16.06.91 Indonesia v Taiwan 2-1
Hong Kong v Japan 3-1
23.06.91 Indonesia v Hong Kong 0-0
Taiwan v Japan 0-3
29.06.91 Japan v Taiwan 2-0
30.06.91 Hong Kong v Indonesia 1-1
07.07.91 Japan v Hong Kong 3-0
Taiwan v Indonesia 3-1
13.07.91 Japan v Indonesia 3-1
14.07.91 Taiwan v Hong Kong 0-1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Japan	6	5	0	1	14	5	10
Hong Kong	6	2	3	1	6	6	7
Indonesia	6	1	2	3	6	10	4
Taiwan	6	1	1	4	5	10	3

Japan qualify for 2nd Round.

AFRICA
3 participants to qualify
1st Round
18.11.90 Mauritius v Somalia 1-0
18.11.90 Mozambique v Swaziland 0-0
18.11.90 Botswana v Gabon 0-0
30.11.90 Somalia v Mauritius 2-1
02.12.90 Swaziland v Mozambique 0-1
Ethiopia v *Libya
02.12.90 Gabon v Botswana 2-1
*Burkina Faso v Senegal
*Mali v Sierra Leone
*Gambia v Mauritania
*Congo v Togo

2nd Round
Group 1
Mauritius v **Zambia
10.08.91 Sudan v Egypt
11.08.91 Mozambique v Uganda
23.08.91 Egypt v Sudan 2-1
24.08.91 Uganda v Mozambique
*Ethiopia v Malawi
**Gabon v Cameroon
^Angola v Ivory Coast

Group 2
10.08.91 Tunisia v Senegal 3-1
11.08.91 Algeria v Sierra Leone 0-0
11.08.91 Morocco v Mauritania 6-0
Liberia v Togo
Ghana v Guinea**
11.08.91 Zaire v Zimbabwe
23.08.91 Mauritania v Morocco
24.08.91 Sierra Leone v Algeria
25.08.91 Senegal v Tunisia
Togo v Liberia
Zimbabwe v Zaire
Undecided Liberia v Togo
*= Withdrew from tournament.
**= Suspended from tournament.

OCEANIA
0 or 1 participant to qualify
1st Round
19.05.91 Australia v Papua NG 4-0
22.05.91 Australia v N.Zealand 2-0
26. 5.91 Australia v Fiji 7-0
19.10.91 Papua NG v Australia
28.10.91 New Zealand v Fiji
02.11.91 Papua NG v Fiji
06.11.91 Papua NG v N.Zealand
09.11.91 Fiji v N.Zealand
13.11.91 Fiji v Papua NG
16.11.91 N.Zealand v Papua NG
16.11.91 Fiji v Australia
23.11.91 N.Zealand v Australia

SOUTH AMERICA
2 to qualify
Group A
Brazil, Paraquay, Columbia, Peru, Venezuela.
Group B
Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia, Ecuador.

A tournament will be held in Paraguay from April 18 to May 10 1992

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 1990-1992

GROUP 1:
30.05.90 Iceland v Albania 2-0
05.09.90 Iceland v France 1-2
26.09.90 Czechoslovakia v Iceland 1-0
10.10.90 Spain v Iceland 2-1
13.10.90 France v Czechoslovakia 2-1
14.11.90 Czechoslovakia v Spain 3-2
17.11.90 Albania v France 0-1
19.12.90 Spain v Albania 9-0
20.02.91 France v Spain 3-1
30.03.91 France v Albania 5-0
01.05.91 Albania v Czechoslovakia 0-2
26.05.91 Albania v Iceland 1-0
05.06.91 Iceland v Czechoslovakia 0-1
04.09.91 Czechoslovakia v France 1-2
25.09.91 Iceland v Spain
12.10.91 Spain v France
16.10.91 Czechoslovakia v Albania
13.11.91 Spain v Czechoslovakia
13/20.11.91 France v Iceland
18.12.91 Albania v Spain

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
France	6	6	0	0	15	4	12
Czechoslovakia	6	4	0	2	9	6	8
Spain	4	2	0	2	14	7	4
Iceland	6	1	0	5	4	7	2
Albania	6	1	0	5	1	19	2

GROUP 2:
12.09.90 Switzerland v Bulgaria 2-0
12.09.90 Scotland v Romania 2-1
17.10.90 Romania v Bulgaria 0-3
17.10.90 Scotland v Switzerland 2-1
14.11.90 Bulgaria v Scotland 1-1
14.11.90 San Marino v Switzerland 0-4
05.12.90 Romania v San Marino 6-0
27.03.91 Scotland v Bulgaria 1-1
27.03.91 San Marino v Romania 1-3
03.04.91 Switzerland v Romania 0-0
01.05.91 Bulgaria v Switzerland 2-3
01.05.91 San Marino v Scotland 0-2
22.05.91 San Marino v Bulgaria 0-3
05.06.91 Switzerland v San Marino 7-0
11.09.91 Switzerland v Scotland 2-2
16.10.91 Bulgaria v San Marino
16.10.91 Romania v Scotland
13.11.91 Scotland v San Marino
13.11.91 Romania v Switzerland
20.11.91 Bulgaria v Romania

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Switzerland	7	4	2	1	19	6	10
Scotland	6	3	3	0	10	6	9
Bulgaria	6	2	2	2	9	7	6
Romania	5	2	1	2	10	6	5
San Marino	6	0	0	6	1	24	0

GROUP 3:
12.09.90 USSR v Norway 2-0
10.10.90 Norway v Hungary 0-0
17.10.90 Hungary v Italy 1-1
31.10.90 Hungary v Cyprus 4-2
03.11.90 Italy v USSR 0-0
14.11.90 Cyprus v Norway 0-3
22.12.90 Cyprus v Italy 0-4
03.04.91 Cyprus v Hungary 0-2
17.04.91 Hungary v USSR 0-1
01.05.91 Italy v Hungary 3-1
01.05.91 Norway v Cyprus 3-0
29.05.91 USSR v Cyprus 4-0
05.06.91 Norway v Italy 2-1
28.08.91 Norway v USSR 0-1
25.09.91 USSR v Hungary
12.10.91 USSR v Italy
30.10.91 Hungary v Norway
13.11.91 Italy v Norway
13.11.91 Cyprus v USSR
21.12.91 Italy v Cyprus

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Soviet Union	5	4	1	0	8	0	9
Norway	6	3	1	2	8	4	7
Italy	5	2	2	1	9	4	6
Hungary	6	2	2	2	8	7	6
Cyprus	6	0	0	6	2	20	0

GROUP 4:
12.09.90 N.Ireland v Yugoslavia 0-2
12.09.90 Faroe Islands v Austria 1-0
10.10.90 Denmark v Faroe Islands 4-1
17.10.90 N.Ireland v Denmark 1-1
31.10.90 Yugoslavia v Austria 4-1
14.11.90 Denmark v Yugoslavia 0-2
14.11.90 Austria v N.Ireland 0-0
27.03.91 Yugoslavia v N.Ireland 4-1
01.05.91 Yugoslavia v Denmark 1-2
01.05.91 N.Ireland v Faroe Islands 1-1
16.05.91 Yugoslavia v Faroe Islands 7-0
22.05.91 Austria v Faroe Islands 3-0
05.06.91 Denmark v Austria 2-1
11.09.91 Faroe Islands v N.Ireland 0-5
25.09.91 Faroe Islands v Denmark
09.10.91 Austria v Denmark
16.10.91 Faroe Islands v Yugoslavia
16.10.91 N.Ireland v Austria
13.11.91 Denmark v N.Ireland
13.11.91 Austria v Yugoslavia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Yugoslavia	6	5	0	1	20	4	10
Denmark	5	3	1	1	9	6	7
N.Ireland	6	1	3	2	8	8	5
Austria	5	1	1	3	5	7	3
Faroe Islands	6	1	1	4	3	20	3

GROUP 5:
17.10.90 Wales v Belgium 3-1
31.10.90 Luxembourg v Germany 2-3
14.11.90 Luxembourg v Wales 0-1
27.02.91 Belgium v Luxembourg 3-0
27.03.91 Belgium v Wales 1-1
01.05.91 Germany v Belgium 1-0
05.06.91 Wales v Germany 1-0
11.09.91 Luxembourg v Belgium 0-2
16.10.91 Germany v Wales
13.11.91 Wales v Luxembourg
20.11.91 Belgium v Germany
17.12.91 Germany v Luxembourg

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Wales	4	3	1	0	6	2	7
Belgium	5	2	1	2	7	5	5
Germany	3	2	0	1	4	3	4
Luxembourg	4	0	0	4	2	9	0

GROUP 6:
12.09.90 Finland v Portugal 0-0
17.10.90 Portugal v Holland 1-0
31.10.90 Greece v Malta 4-0
21.11.90 Holland v Greece 2-0
25.11.90 Malta v Finland 2-2
19.12.90 Malta v Holland 0-8
23.01.91 Greece v Portugal 3-2
09.02.91 Malta v Portugal 0-1
20.02.91 Portugal v Malta 5-0
13.03.91 Holland v Malta 1-0
17.04.91 Holland v Finland 2-0
16.05.91 Finland v Malta 2-0
05.06.91 Finland v Holland 1-1
11.09.91 Portugal v Finland 2-0
09.10.91 Finland v Greece
16.10.91 Holland v Portugal
30.10.91 Greece v Finland
20.11.91 Portugal v Greece
04.12.91 Greece v Holland
22.12.91 Malta v Greece

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Holland	6	4	1	1	14	2	9
Portugal	6	4	1	1	11	3	9
Finland	6	1	3	2	5	7	5
Greece	3	2	0	1	7	4	4
Malta	7	0	1	6	2	23	1

GROUP 7:
17.10.90 England v Poland 2-0
17.10.90 Rep.of Ireland v Turkey 5-0
14.11.90 Rep.of Ireland v England 1-1
14.11.90 Turkey v Poland 0-1
27.03.91 England v Rep.of Ireland 1-1
17.04.91 Poland v Turkey 3-0
01.05.91 Turkey v England 0-1
01.05.91 Rep.of Ireland v Poland 0-0
16.10.91 Poland v Rep.of Ireland
16.10.91 England v Turkey
13.11.91 Turkey v Rep.of Ireland
13.11.91 Poland v England

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
England	4	2	2	0	5	2	6
Rep. of Ireland	4	1	3	0	7	2	5
Poland	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Turkey	4	0	0	4	0	10	0

UNDER-21 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP

GROUP 1:
29.05.90 Iceland v Albania 0-0
04.09.90 Iceland v France 0-1
25.09.90 Czechoslovakia v Iceland 7-0
09.10.90 Spain v Iceland 2-0
12.10.90 France v Czechoslovakia 1-2
13.11.90 Czechoslovakia v Spain 3-1
16.11.90 Albania v France 0-0
18.12.90 Spain v Albania 1-0
19.02.91 France v Spain 0-1
29.03.91 France v Albania 3-0
30.04.91 Albania v Czechoslovakia 1-5
25.05.91 Albania v Iceland 2-1
04.06.91 Iceland v Czechoslovakia 0-1
03.09.91 Czechoslovakia v France 1-0
24.09.91 Iceland v Spain
11.10.91 Spain v France
15.10.91 Czechoslovakia v Albania
12.11.91 France v Iceland
12.11.91 Spain v Czechoslovakia
17.12.91 Albania v Spain

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Czechoslovakia	6	6	0	0	19	3	12
Spain	4	3	0	1	5	3	6
France	6	2	1	3	5	4	5
Albania	6	1	2	3	3	10	4
Iceland	6	0	1	5	1	13	1

GROUP 2:
11.09.90 Scotland v Romania 2-0
11.09.90 Switzerland v Bulgaria 0-2
16.10.90 Romania v Bulgaria 0-1
16.10.90 Scotland v Switzerland 4-2
13.11.90 Bulgaria v Scotland 2-0
26.03.91 Scotland v Bulgaria 1-0
02.04.91 Switzerland v Romania 0-2
30.04.91 Bulgaria v Switzerland 1-0
10.09.91 Switzerland v Scotland 0-3
15.10.91 Romania v Scotland
12.11.91 Romania v Switzerland
19.11.91 Bulgaria v Romania

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Scotland	5	4	0	1	10	4	8
Bulgaria	5	4	0	1	6	1	8
Romania	3	1	0	2	2	3	2
Switzerland	5	0	0	5	2	12	0

GROUP 3:
11.09.90 USSR v Norway 2-2
09.10.90 Norway v Hungary 3-1
18.10.90 Italy v Hungary 1-0
18.04.91 Hungary v USSR 0-0
02.05.91 Hungary v Italy 0-1
05.06.91 Norway v Italy 6-0
12.06.91 Italy v USSR 1-0
27.08.91 Norway v USSR 0-1
26.09.91 USSR v Hungary
16.10.91 USSR v Italy
29.10.91 Hungary v Norway
13.11.91 Italy v Norway

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Italy	4	3	0	1	3	6	6
Norway	4	2	1	1	11	4	5
USSR	4	1	2	1	3	3	4
Hungary	4	0	1	3	1	5	1

GROUP 4:
17.10.90 San Marino v Denmark 0-3
30.10.90 Yugoslavia v Austria 1-0
12.11.90 Denmark v Yugoslavia 3-0
21.11.90 San Marino v Austria 0-2
13.03.91 Yugoslavia v San Marino 5-0
03.04.91 Austria v San Marino 3-0
17.04.91 Denmark v San Marino 7-0
30.04.91 Yugoslavia v Denmark 2-6
04.06.91 Denmark v Austria 1-1
02.10.91 San Marino v Yugoslavia
08.10.91 Austria v Denmark
12.11.91 Austria v Yugoslavia

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Denmark	5	4	1	0	20	3	9
Austria	4	2	1	1	6	2	5
Yugoslavia	4	2	0	2	8	9	4
San Marino	5	0	0	5	0	20	0

GROUP 5:
30.10.90 Luxembourg v Germany 0-3
26.02.91 Belgium v Luxembourg 2-0
30.04.91 Germany v Belgium 3-1
10.09.91 Luxembourg v Belgium 0-2
19.11.91 Belgium v Germany
17.12.91 Germany v Luxembourg

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Germany	2	2	0	0	6	1	4
Belgium	3	2	0	1	5	3	4
Luxembourg	3	0	0	3	0	7	0

FURTHER UPDATE OF RESULTS AND TABLES NEXT MONTH

GROUP 6:
11.09.90 Finland v Portugal 0-1
16.10.90 Portugal v Holland 0-0
18.12.90 Malta v Holland 1-4
08.02.91 Malta v Portugal 1-3
19.02.91 Portugal v Malta 2-0
12.03.91 Holland v Malta 7-1
16.04.91 Holland v Finland 1-0
04.06.91 Finland v Holland 1-7
26.06.91 Finland v Malta 3-1
10.09.91 Portugal v Finland 2-0
15.10.91 Holland v Portugal
16.10.91 Malta v Finland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Holland	5	4	1	0	19	3	9
Portugal	5	4	1	0	8	1	9
Finland	5	1	0	4	4	12	2
Malta	5	0	0	5	4	19	0

GROUP 7:
16.10.90 England v Poland 0-1
16.10.90 Rep.Ireland v Turkey 3-2
13.11.90 Rep.Ireland v England 0-3
13.11.90 Turkey v Poland 0-1
26.03.91 England v Rep.Ireland 3-0
16.04.91 Poland v Turkey 2-0
30.04.91 Rep.Ireland v Poland 1-2
30.04.91 Turkey v England 2-2
15.10.91 England v Turkey
15.10.91 Poland v Rep.Ireland
12.11.91 Poland v England
12.11.91 Turkey v Rep.Ireland

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Poland	4	4	0	0	6	1	8
England	4	2	1	1	8	3	5
Rep.Ireland	4	1	0	3	4	10	2
Turkey	4	0	1	3	4	8	1

GROUP 8:
31.10.90 Sweden v Greece 5-0
21.11.90 Cyprus v Sweden 1-1
21.11.90 Greece v Israel 2-2
20.03.91 Israel v Cyprus 4-0
17.04.91 Cyprus v Greece 1-0
01.05.91 Sweden v Cyprus 6-0
16.10.91 Sweden v Israel
30.10.91 Israel v Greece
14.11.91 Israel v Sweden
20.11.91 Greece v Sweden
04.12.91 Cyprus v Israel
18.12.91 Greece v Cyprus

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Sweden	3	2	1	0	12	1	5
Israel	2	1	1	0	6	2	3
Cyprus	4	1	1	2	2	11	3
Greece	3	0	1	2	2	8	1

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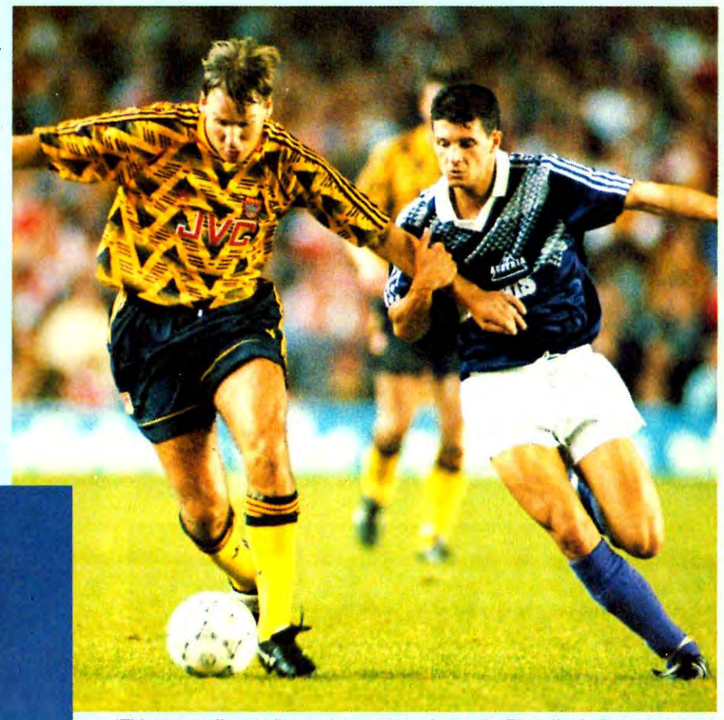

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Home news

THE ABC OF GOALKEEPING —By Schmeichel

GIANT goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel has settled easily into English football — partly because of a training technique used by the Danish national coach, Richard Moller Nielsen.

"Schmeikey", as he is now known to adoring fans at Manchester United, made his home League debut against Notts County in a match watched by 46,278 fans.

That's around 40,000 more than the average gate at his old club, Brondby. But when your technique is up to the job, then that tends to strengthen your nerve.

"I used to be a bad catcher of the ball", says Schmeichel. "I could always do the spectacular stuff in terms of pulling off flying saves. When it came to keeping the ball in my hands, I was not so good.

"Richard devised a schedule for me as soon as I got in the national squad. I called it my ABC practice. In a way it was like learning the alphabet.

"At first I would do something as simple as sitting or standing and catching a ball thrown straight at me.

"Then Richard would gradually build up, day by day, week by week, month by month.

"Bit by bit I would catch the ball further away from me. But the golden rule in this practice was that I had to catch it. The ball had to stick.

"That way I got to learn to trust my judgement about when to hold the ball and when to settle for knocking a shot away.

"I suppose it must be a bit like golfers improving their putting. I improved my distance bit by bit."

Watching the 6ft.3in. Schmeichel makes you scratch your head to think of a similar goalkeeper.

He's built like a tank. But he is so athletic, he zooms down to low shots like a cat with wings.

He has flypaper hands, a mule's kick, and can THROW the ball easily into the opposing half.

Before coming to England, Schmeichel was earning almost £3,000 a month in Denmark, by combining soccer with working in the advertising department of a Copenhagen newspaper.

Helped

"My face was always on the sports pages," he says. "So everybody recognised me and that helped my job.

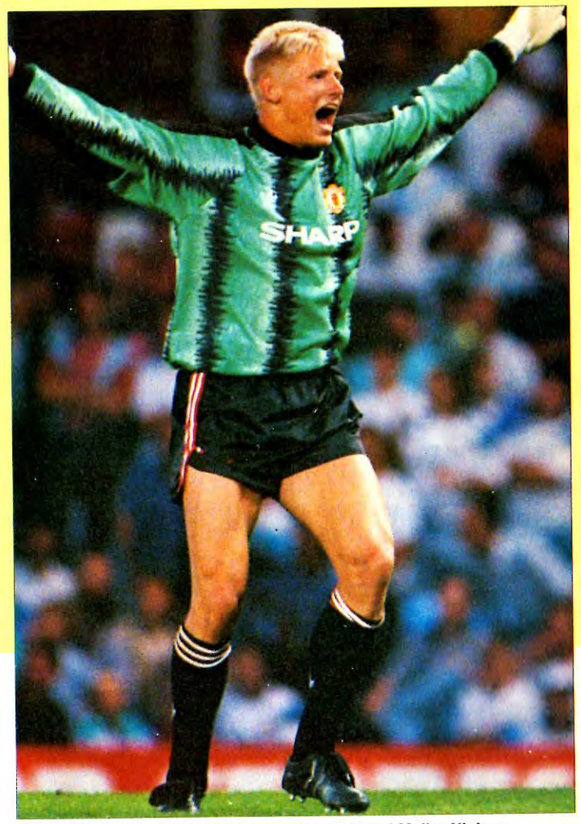
"I enjoyed it and it gave me an insight into the world of the press and of business in general."

Some of his earlier jobs were not so much fun. Such as cleaning, laying carpets, buying clothes in a factory, doing his national service, and running a charity shop in aid of the World Wildlife Fund.

For a one-man task force who obliterates everything in his path on the pitch, Schmeichel comes from a relatively quiet and caring family.

His dad, Tolek, is a pianist. His mum, Inger, is a nurse. And his wife, Bente, is a former social worker.

TIM TAYLOR



Schmeichel . . . had special training from Richard Moller Nielsen.

Kelly maintains his lucky run

THE Republic of Ireland, unbeaten in 1990-91, got the new season off to a good start with a 2-1 win over Hungary in Gyor.

That put manager Jack Charlton in a confident mood for the vital European Championship game against Poland. The Irish must win if they are to retain any hope of qualifying for the finals in Sweden.

The Irish went to Hungary without regulars Ronnie Whelan, Steve Staunton, Paul McGrath, Andy Townsend and Tony Cascarino.

David Kelly kept up his record of never playing on a losing Irish team and got his seventh goal in 11 games. Wimbledon's left-back Terry Phelan, the 41st player to declare for the Republic under the parental rule, won his first cap.

The Irish are very familiar with trips to Poland — and this will be the 21st meeting between the countries — and were disappointed that they did not take the two points when the countries met in the first leg last May.

The Poles are one of only six to beat the Irish since Big Jack was appointed manager nearly six years ago. They won 1-0 in Warsaw in November 1986.

Much-travelled Sam Allardyce is the new manager of First Division Limerick City. He is literally going to have to build from scratch — the clubhouse was burned down last month.

Former Irish international team manager Mick Meagan is still playing junior football at the age of 57. Meagan, who played for Everton and Huddersfield Town in the 1960's, was the Republic's first manager in 1969.

BY SEAN CREEDON

Kelly . . . unbeaten in Irish green.

UNLUCKY 13 FOR TAYLOR

GRAHAM TAYLOR was subjected to his first experience of defeat as England manager when Germany plundered a 1-0 win in their friendly at Wembley.

It was Taylor's 13th match in charge of the national team, unlucky for him and perhaps for one or two players hoping to strengthen their cases for the competitive encounters to come.

A number of players unavailable for this fixture should come back into contention for the important European Championship qualifying games against Turkey and Poland.

In the absence of regular central defenders Mark Wright and Des Walker, Taylor gave their duties to the Manchester United pair, Gary Pallister and Paul Parker. Both, however, appeared confused by the evening's decisive move. The German captain, Lothar Matthaus, pushed a through-ball into the path of Thomas Doll, advancing from the left. Defenders hesitated, Pallister, attempting to catch Doll in the offside trap, appealed. To no avail.

Doll left John Salako suitably bemused before chipping in his cross. His Lazio team-mate, Karl-Heinz Riedle, was unmarked and headed a simple goal. Pallister was a helpless spectator.

Highlight

The quality from Doll and Matthaus served to highlight not only England's vulnerability at the back but also their shortcomings in midfield and attack.

Taylor, pointed to that fateful lapse just before half-time, and felt his re-shaped side were less than fortunate.

Taylor said: "That goal can be put down to one minute of madness. I would have accepted it better if the Germans had beaten us with a special goal. But it was down to us and to basic, bad defending."

England did not, however, have a midfield player with Matthaus' vision and accuracy of pass, or a forward with Doll's elusive skills and invention.

Salako and Trevor Steven were disappointing and eventually made way for Paul Merson of Arsenal and Paul Stewart of Tottenham. It is difficult to accept David Batty as an international player and Alan Smith, for all his willingness and heading ability, surely does not have the range or subtlety to make an impact at the highest level.

Gary Lineker and David Platt toiled with familiar commitment and scant luck. Platt, back from Bari, headed against the bar and Lineker couldn't quite guide in the rebound. Lineker, who had to withstand some brutal attention early in the match, brought a fine save from Illgner with a shot on the turn.

Chris Woods was preferred to David Seaman in the England goal and did not let down the manager. He blocked a point-blank volley from Riedle when it seemed the forward had to score.

Woods has returned from his stint in Scotland with Rangers to play with promoted Sheffield Wednesday, now managed by Trevor Francis following Ron Atkinson's move to Aston Villa.

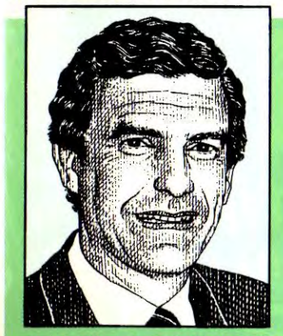
The pace-setters have been another of Atkinson's former clubs, Manchester United.

Seven matches into the season, they topped the table with 17 points. Liverpool, after an uncertain start, were four points behind in second place, but with a match in hand. Manchester City were third, on goal difference.

Also in the lower half were champions Arsenal, with a modest eight points from seven. They were defeated only once in the entire League campaign last season, yet lost three times in the early stages this time.

Manager George Graham has finally delved into the transfer market to sign Norwegian international defender Pal Lydersen from FK Start for £500,000.

BY DERICK ALLSOP



TREVOR BROOKING

The mad money race gets hotter still

VENTURING into the transfer market was always a risky matter, but with the fees now escalating to record levels, managers have very little room for mistakes.

In any business, of course, you have to pay top prices for quality, but so many million pound plus deals being concluded in recent months have resulted lower down the scale in several hundred thousand pounds changing hands for somebody who appears rather ordinary.

The larger clubs are completely dominating the top end of the market, which means the Premier League is already operating within the First Division, where half the clubs cannot compete on the same financial level.

This gulf was best illustrated in early September, when Luton sold Kingsley Black to Nottingham Forest for £1.5 million, and then a week later manager David Pleat paid £180,000 to Bolton for Steve Thompson, and £300,000 to get Mike Harford back from Derby.

No matter how skilful managers are at spotting talent in the lower divisions, the number of potential bargain buys that develop into top players is diminishing all the time. This makes the task of managers like Pleat even harder.

If they must sell their best players, realistically they start the season with retaining First Division status as the main priority.

The million pound transfer has been with British football for over a decade, when such players as Steve Daley, Trevor Francis, Clive Allen and Garry Birtles were attracting such offers. Following that there was a period when most such moves involved only our players who moved abroad into Europe. But, gradually the seven-figure sums have returned, and soared to a level only a few can reach.

The three biggest deals, involving Paul Gascoigne, David Platt and Trevor Steven, amazingly went beyond £5 million apiece.

All play in midfield which should allow them a greater chance of success than the more isolated role of the striker.

Steven knows the Champions' Cup is top priority for Marseille, but it remains to be seen whether Chris Waddle is included in those plans.

Platt was soon made skipper of a Bari side overflowing with fresh signings, and I'm sure the obvious settling-down period necessary for everyone new to the club means only mid-table consolidation at best.

Gascoigne's injury makes him a unique case, although he must be excited at the prospect of playing behind the German strikeforce of Thomas Doll and Karl-Heinz Riedle.

Domestic

The largest of the domestic transfers, not surprisingly, saw the departure of Dean Saunders from Derby for £2.9 million, and at Liverpool he linked up with his Welsh international partner, Ian Rush.

Spurs raised a few eyebrows when they managed to forget their financial restrictions and paid Chelsea just over £2 million for Gordon Durie, and his early successes alongside Gary Lineker must have encouraged their fans.

There was one other £2 million striker deal, possibly the riskiest, as Millwall's Teddy Sheringham is relatively inexperienced in the First Division. He scored an amazing 27 times for them last season, and only three of his League goals were penalties. But it is a massive step up from the Second Division to the First.

Brian Clough has taken a typical gamble by signing Sheringham for Nottingham Forest. The pressure was eased somewhat with the additional moves for central defender Carl Tiler from Barnsley for £1.4 million and Kingsley Black's move from Luton.

The most surprising deal was Keith Curle's move from Wimbledon to Manchester City. Not so much his departure, but the £2.5 million cost.

In the past the transfer fees involving defenders tended to be less than midfield players or strikers, but this move was an example of how this distinction has disappeared.

Curle cost more than a slightly younger Mark Wright, who has gained 40 caps. Graeme Souness paid Derby £2.2 million for Wright to join Saunders, but tendon trouble has hindered his progress.

Manchester United seem to have reaped immediate dividends from their major summer addition Paul Parker.

His £2 million move coincided with the arrival of goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel from Denmark, and both have looked very solid in United's opening matches.

These performances helped them collect 1-0 away victories at such places as Aston Villa and Southampton, and are the hallmark of any side with title hopes.

Black . . . Forest's £1.5m striker.

RED LEAVES TOO MANY FEELING BLUE

THE capacity crowd at Celtic Park for the first Old Firm derby of the season looked on mostly in disbelief as referee Jim McCluskey showed a yellow card to Dutch midfielder Peter Huistra of Rangers.

Only 26 minutes had gone and the match was being contested in an exhilarating, competitive manner when Celtic striker Tommy Coyne broke through, running unchallenged on goal with only Andy Goram to beat.

Then Huistra made a desperate lunge, clipping Coyne's heels and preventing a "certain" goal.

It seemed to be no more than a formality that Mr McCluskey would send him off and even the most partisan supporters were stunned by a yellow card rather than a red.

The fact that the resultant free-kick was easily cleared merely added insult to the Celtic players' mental injury.

Even worse, Mark Hateley then broke away to score the first of his two goals which were to give the Ibrox club victory.

The Huistra incident provoked a high level of controversy, especially as the main talking point of the Scottish season had been the high proportion of ordering-off decisions, many as a result of recently introduced FIFA directives concerning the professional foul.

Harmony

Mr McCluskey's refusal to dismiss Huistra at Parkhead did little for the cause of harmony between referees and clubs.

The situation must have been galling for St Johnstone's John Inglis, who was feeling blue when sent off for what appeared no more than an over-enthusiastic shoulder charge on Hateley, and suffered the same fate seven days later for an innocuous tackle on Dundee United's Darren Jackson.

The balance of power in the Scottish game, during the initial stages of the season at any rate, appeared to have swung from west to east.

Aberdeen, Hearts and — perhaps surprisingly — Hibernian all made excellent starts, although the Dons had to suffer an early exit from the Skol Cup.

They were defeated 1-0 by Premier Division newcomers Airdrie at Pittodrie.

The transformation at Hibernian has amazed most observers of Scottish football, with the club now appearing to have recovered from their serious debt problems.

Hearts went to the top of the Premier Division following a lengthy unbeaten run but their Skol Cup aspirations ended at the quarter-final stage when they lost 1-0 to Rangers at home.

Celtic's early defeat by Rangers merely accentuated the range of problems faced by new boss Liam Brady.

Despite the acquisition of Gary Gillespie from Liverpool, he is still having difficulty in replacing Paul Elliott.

While Gillespie has adapted well at the back, and his creative abilities have been immediately apparent, he is first to admit that he cannot be regarded as a direct replacement for Elliott.

BY ALAN FAIRLEY

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THE EDITOR

Real Madrid 1960.

Manchester United 1968.

AC Milan 1989.

Michel Platini of Juventus, 1985.

Cesare Maldini of AC Milan, 1963.

Nottingham Forest 1980.

Aston Villa 1982.

Bayern Munich 1975.

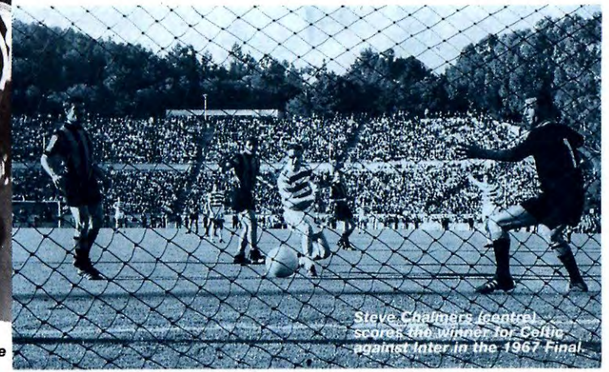
CHAMPIONS' CUP

PAST WINNERS

50's and 60's

1956 Real Madrid 4, Reims 3
1957 Real Madrid 2, Fiorentina 0
1958 Real Madrid 3, Milan 2 (aet)
1959 Real Madrid 2, Reims 0
1960 Real Madrid 7, Eintracht Frankfurt 3
1961 Benfica 3, Barcelona 2
1962 Benfica 5, Real Madrid 3
1963 Milan 2, Benfica 1
1964 Internazionale 3, Real Madrid 1
1965 Internazionale 1, Benfica 0
1966 Real Madrid 2, Partizan Belgrade 1
1967 **CELTIC 2**, Internazionale 1
1968 **MAN UTD 4**, Benfica 1 (aet)
1969 Milan 4, Ajax 1

Real Madrid made it four in a row by beating Reims 2-0 in the 1959 Final.



Steve Chalmers (centre) scores the winner for Celtic against Inter in the 1967 Final.

Terry McDermott (dark shirt) scores Liverpool's first goal in the 3-1 win against Borussia Mg in 1977.

70's

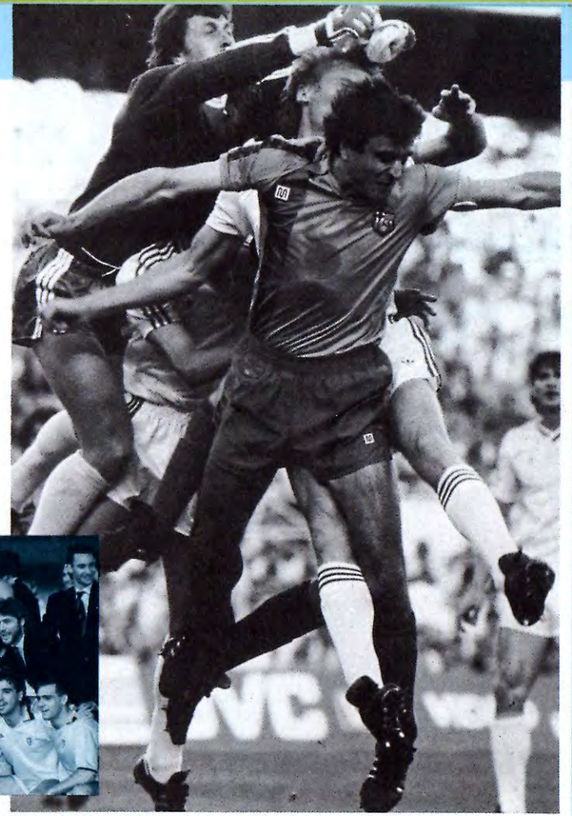
1970 Feyenoord 2, **CELTIC 1** (aet)
1971 Ajax 2, Panathinaikos 0
1972 Ajax 2, Internazionale 0
1973 Ajax 1, Juventus 0
1974 Bayern Munich 1, Atletico Madrid 1
Replay Bayern Munich 4, Atletico Madrid 0
1975 Bayern Munich 2, **LEEDS 0**
1976 Bayern Munich 1, Saint-Etienne 0
1977 **LIVERPOOL 3**, Borussia Mg 1
1978 **LIVERPOOL 1**, Brugge 0
1979 **NOTTM FOREST 1**, Malmo 0

FC Porto's Filho Juary celebrates his winner against Bayern Munich in 1987.

80's and 90's

1980 **NOTTM FOREST 1**, Hamburg 0
1981 **LIVERPOOL 1**, Real Madrid 0
1982 **ASTON VILLA 1**, Bayern Munich 0
1983 Hamburg 1, Juventus 0
1984 **LIVERPOOL 1**, Roma 1 (aet)
Liverpool 4-2 on penalties
1985 Juventus 1, **LIVERPOOL 0**
1986 Steaua 0, Barcelona 0 aet
Steaua 2-0 on penalties
1987 Porto 2, Bayern Munich 1
1988 PSV Eindhoven 0, Benfica 0 (aet)
PSV 6-5 on penalties
1989 Milan 4, Steaua Bucharest 0
1990 Milan 1, Benfica 0
1991 Red Star 0, Marseille 0 aet
Red Star 5-3 on penalties

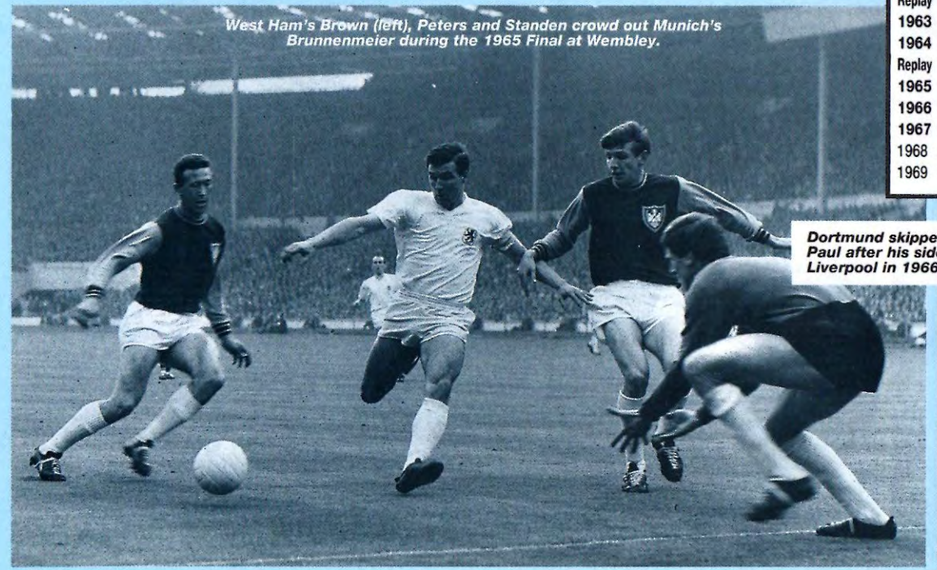
AC Milan's players celebrate their 1990 triumph over Benfica.



Steaua's Helmut Ducadam saved three penalties in the 1986 Final.

CUP-WINNERS'CUP

PAST WINNERS



West Ham's Brown (left), Peters and Standen crowd out Munich's Brunnenmeier during the 1965 Final at Wembley.

60's

1961 **RANGERS 0,** Fiorentina 2 (1st leg)
Fiorentina 2, **RANGERS 1** (2nd leg)
Fiorentina 4-1 on agg
1962 Atletico Madrid 1, Fiorentina 1
Replay Atletico Madrid 3, Fiorentina 0
1963 **SPURS 5**, Atletico Madrid 1
1964 Sporting Lisbon 3, MTK Budapest 3
Replay Sporting 1, MTK 0
1965 **WEST HAM 2**, Munich 1860 0
1966 B Dortmund 2, **LIVERPOOL 1** (aet)
1967 Bayern Munich 1, **RANGERS 0** (aet)
1968 Milan 2, Hamburg 0
1969 Slovan Bratislava 3, Barcelona 2

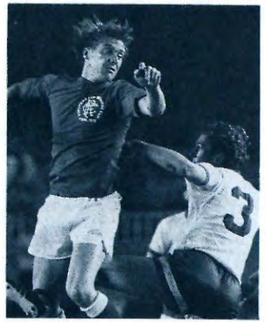
Dortmund skipper Wolfgang Paul after his side had beaten Liverpool in 1966.

Sampdoria's Vialli beats Anderlecht keeper De Wilde to score the first of his two goals in the 1990 Final in Gothenburg.

70's

Rangers beat Moscow Dynamo in the 1972 Final.

1970 **MAN CITY 2**, Gornik Zabrze 1
1971 **CHELSEA 1**, Real Madrid 1
Replay **CHELSEA 2**, Real Madrid 1 (aet)
1972 **RANGERS 3**, Moscow Dynamo 2
1973 Milan 1, **LEEDS 0**
1974 Magdeburg 2, Milan 0
1975 Kiev Dynamo 3, Ferencvaros 0
1976 Anderlecht 4, **WEST HAM 2**
1977 Hamburg 2, Anderlecht 0
1978 Anderlecht 4, FK Austria 0
1979 Barcelona 4, Fort. Dusseldorf 3 (aet)



80's and 90's

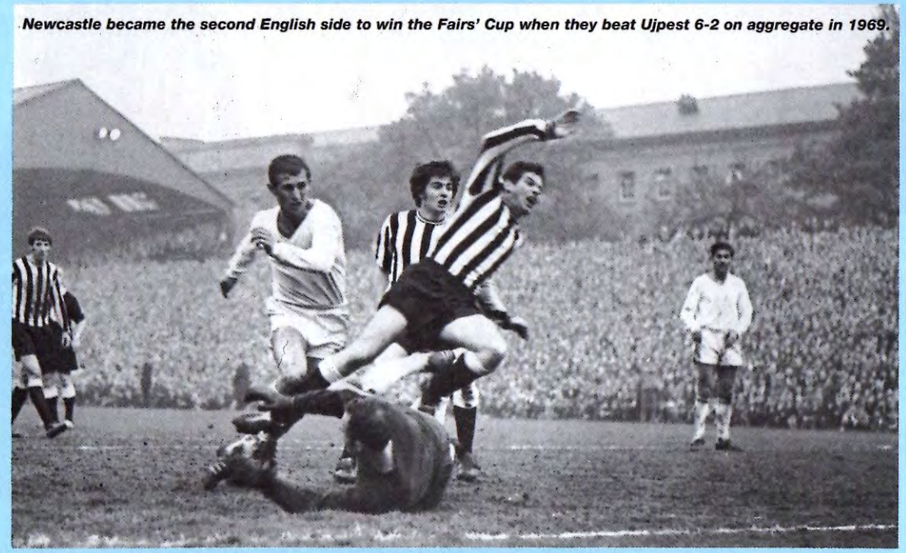
1980 Valencia 0, **ARSENAL** 0 (aet)
Valencia 5-4 on penalties
1981 Tbilisi Dynamo 2, Carl Zeiss Jena 1
1982 Barcelona 2, Standard Liege 1
1983 **ABERDEEN 2**, Real Madrid 1 (aet)
1984 Juventus 2, Porto 1
1985 **EVERTON 3**, Rapid Vienna 1
1986 Kiev Dynamo 3, Atletico Madrid 0
1987 Ajax 1, Lok. Leipzig 0
1988 Mechelen 1, Ajax 0
1989 Barcelona 2, Sampdoria 0
1990 Sampdoria 2, Anderlecht 0 (aet)
1991 **MAN UNITED 2**, Barcelona 1

Ajax captain Van Basten celebrates after his goal was enough to beat Lokomotive Leipzig in 1987.

FAIRS/UEFA CUP

PAST WINNERS

Newcastle became the second English side to win the Fairs' Cup when they beat Ujpest 6-2 on aggregate in 1969.



50's and 60's

FAIRS' CUP

1958 **LONDON 2**, Barcelona 2
Barcelona 6, London 0
Barcelona 8-2 on agg

1960 **BIRMINGHAM 0**, Barcelona 0
Barcelona 4, **BIRMINGHAM 1**
Barcelona 4-1 on agg

1961 **BIRMINGHAM 2**, Roma 2
Roma 2, **BIRMINGHAM 0**
Roma 4-2 on agg

1962 Valencia 6, Barcelona 2
Barcelona 1, Valencia 1
Valencia 7-3 on agg

1963 Dinamo Zagreb 1, Valencia 2
Valencia 2, Dinamo 0
Valencia 4-1 on agg

1964 Zaragoza 2, Valencia 1

1965 Ferencvaros 1, Juventus 0

1966 Barcelona 0, Zaragoza 1
Zaragoza 2, Barcelona 4
Barcelona 4-3 on agg

1967 Dinamo Zagreb 2, **LEEDS 0**
LEEDS 0, Dinamo 0
Dinamo Zagreb 2-0 on agg

1968 **LEEDS 1**, Ferencvaros 0
Ferencvaros 0, **LEEDS 0**
Leeds 1-0 on agg

1969 **NEWCASTLE 3**, Ujpest 0
Ujpest 2, **NEWCASTLE 3**
Newcastle 6-2 on agg

Birmingham keeper Schofield saves well in the 1960 Final first leg against Barcelona.

Leeds skipper Billy Bremner is carried by delighted teammates after their victory over Juventus in 1971.

70's

FAIRS CUP

1970 Anderlecht 3, **ARSENAL 1**
ARSENAL 3, Anderlecht 0
Arsenal 4-3 on agg

1971 Juventus 2, **LEEDS 2**
LEEDS 1, Juventus 1
Leeds on away goals: agg 3-3

UEFA CUP

1972 **WOLVES 1, SPURS 2**
SPURS 1, WOLVES 1
Spurs 3-2 on agg

CONTINUED OVER

Below, Alan Mullery scores for Spurs in the second leg of the all-English 1972 Final against Wolves.

70's

FAIRS/UEFA CUP PAST WINNERS CONTINUED

1973 **LIVERPOOL 3**, Borussia Mg 0
Borussia Mg 0, **LIVERPOOL 2**
Liverpool 5-0 on agg

1974 **SPURS 2**, Feyenoord 2
Feyenoord 2, **SPURS 0**
Feyenoord 4-2 on agg

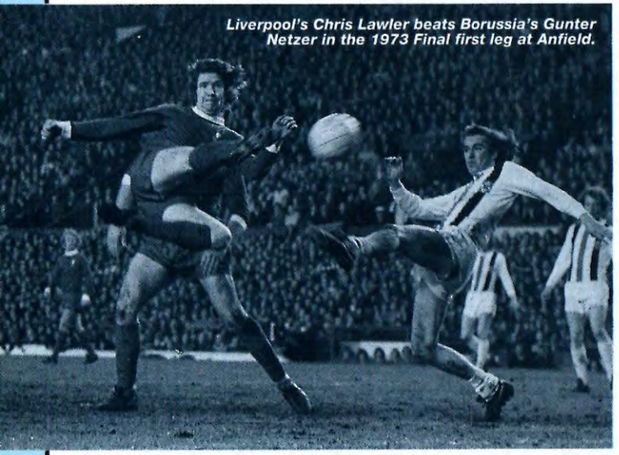
1975 Borussia Mg 0, Twente 0
Twente 1, Borussia Mg 5
Borussia 5-1 on agg

1976 **LIVERPOOL 3**, Brugge 2
Brugge 1, **LIVERPOOL 1**
Liverpool 4-3 on agg

1977 Juventus 1, Bilbao 0
Bilbao 2, Juventus 1
Juventus on away goals: agg 2-2

1978 Bastia 0, PSV Eindhoven 0
PSV Eindhoven 3, Bastia 0
PSV 3-0 on agg

1979 Red Star 1, Borussia Mg 1
Borussia Mg 1, Red Star 0
Borussia Mg 2-1 on agg



Liverpool's Chris Lawler beats Borussia's Gunter Netzer in the 1973 Final first leg at Anfield.

Alkmaar's Kist (left) beats Ipswich's Osman in the 1981 Final second leg.

Juventus keeper Tacconi under pressure from Fiorentina in 1990.

Napoli's Alemao leaves Stuttgart's Immel stranded during the 1989 Final.

80's and 90's

1980 Borussia Mg 3, Eintracht Frankfurt 2
Eintracht Frankfurt 1, Borussia Mg 0
Frankfurt on away goals: agg 3-3

1981 **IPSWICH 3**, AZ Alkmaar 0
AZ Alkmaar 4, **IPSWICH 2**
Ipswich 5-4 on agg

1982 IFK Gothenburg 1, Hamburg 0
Hamburg 0, IFK 3
IFK 4-0 on agg

1983 Anderlecht 1, Benfica 0
Benfica 1, Anderlecht 1
Anderlecht 2-1 on agg

1984 Anderlecht 1, **SPURS 1**
SPURS1, Anderlecht 1 (aet)
Spurs 4-3 on penalties: *agg 2-2*

1985 Videoton 0, Real Madrid 3
Real Madrid 0, Videoton 1
Real Madrid 3-1 on agg

1986 Real Madrid 5, Koln 1
Koln 2, Real Madrid 0
Real Madrid 5-3 on agg

1987 IFK Gothenburg 1, **DUNDEE UTD 0**
DUNDEE UTD 1, IFK 1
IFK 2-1 on agg

1988 Espanol 3, Bayer Leverkusen 0
Bayer Leverkusen 3, Espanol 0 (aet)
Leverkusen 3-2 on penalties: agg 3-3

1989 Napoli 2, Stuttgart 1
Stuttgart 3, Napoli 3
Napoli 5-4 on agg

1990 Juventus 3, Fiorentina 1
Fiorentina 0, Juventus 0
Juventus 3-1 on agg

1991 Internazionale 2, Roma 0
Roma 1, Internazionale 0
Inter 2-1 on agg

CHAMPIONS' CUP

1991 CLUBS

THIS SEASON'S CHAMPIONS' CUP ENTRANTS: THEIR COMPLETE RECORDS IN THIS COMPETITION UP TO JUNE 1991.

Yrs	Club	Nat	P	W	D	L	F	A
21	Benfica	Por	123	63	25	35	244	132
16	*Red Star Belgrade*	*Yug*	*76*	*39*	*13*	*24*	*164*	*103*
15	Anderlecht	Bel	70	31	12	27	121	115
10	Dynamo Kiev	USSR	52	28	11	13	72	42
12	**Rangers**	**Sco**	**55**	**25**	**8**	**22**	**92**	**90**
9	PSV Eindhoven	Hol	45	19	12	14	79	43
13	Austria Vienna	Aus	49	18	11	20	73	70
5	Barcelona	Spa	35	19	8	8	70	34
8	IFK Gothenburg	Swe	36	17	4	15	75	62
8	Sparta Prague	Cze	32	15	7	10	54	47
12	Panathinaikos	Gre	43	12	12	19	53	63
4	Marseille	Fra	23	12	6	5	39	24
7	Kispest-Honved	Hun	22	10	2	10	35	39
7	Grasshoppers	Swi	24	6	5	13	42	44
3	Brondby	Den	10	3	4	3	13	13
7	HJK Helsinki	Fin	18	5	0	13	17	49
7	Besiktas	Tur	16	3	3	10	11	30
6	**Dundalk**	**Rol**	**16**	**3**	**3**	**10**	**12**	**38**
1	**Arsenal**	**Eng**	**6**	**4**	**0**	**2**	**13**	**4**
3	Uni. Craiova	Rom	10	3	2	5	12	14
5	Rosenborg	Nor	12	1	3	8	9	31
3	Hamrun Spartans	Mal	6	1	0	5	2	16
1	Apollon Limassol	Cyp	2	0	0	2	0	12
3	Union Luxembourg	Lux	6	0	0	6	2	24
3	Fram Reykjavik	Ice	6	0	0	6	2	26

Note: The following clubs are making their debut in the Champions' Cup this season: Zagelbie Lubin (Pol), Hansa Rostock (Ger), **Portadown (NI)**, Flamurtari (Alb), Sampdoria (Ita), Kaiserslautern (Ger) and Etar Timovo (Bul).

ANDERLECHT (BELGIUM)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: 21 (record).
Cups: 7 (record).
Cup-winners' Cup: 1976, 1978; runners-up 1977, 1990.
Fairs/UEFA Cup: 1983; runners-up 1970, 1984.
Coach: Aad de Mos.
Stars: Graeme Rutjes, Nii Lamptey, Luc Nilis, John Bosman, Marc Degryse.
● Anderlecht have become one of the European competition regulars after a terrible start when they were beaten 10-0 by Manchester United on their Champions' Cup debut in 1956-57.

APOLLON LIMASSOL (Cyprus)
Founded: 1954.
Championships: one.
Cups: 3.

ARSENAL (England)
Founded: 1886.
Championships: 10.
FA Cups: 5.
League Cups: one.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1980.
Fairs' Cup: 1970.
Manager: George Graham.
Stars: David Seaman, Lee Dixon, David O'Leary, Tony Adams, Michael Thomas, Paul Davis, David Rocastle, Alan Smith, Anders Limpar, Paul Merson.
● The first and last time Arsenal entered the Champions' Cup they reached the 1971-72 quarter-finals before losing 2-1 away and 1-0 at home to title-holders Ajax Amsterdam. The killer at Highbury was an own goal by ... George Graham!

English champions Arsenal.

BARCELONA (Spain)
Founded: 1899.
Championships: 11.
Cups: 22.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1961, 1986.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1979, 1982, 1989; runners-up 1969, 1991.
Supercup: runners-up 1979, 1982, 1989.
Coach: Johan Cruyff.
Stars: Andoni Zubizarreta, Nando, Ronald Koeman, Guillermo Amor, Jose Maria Baquero, Aitor Beguiristain, Eusebio, Andoni Goikotxea, Michael Laudrup, Julio Salinas, Richard Witschge, Hristo Stoichkov.
● The Champions' Cup is the key prize which has escaped Barsa. After reaching the 1961 and 1986 finals this might be third time lucky. Cruyff won it three times with Ajax but the nearest he got for Barcelona was the 1975 semi-final.

BENFICA (Portugal)
Founded: 1904.
Championships: 29 (record).
Cups: 21 (record).
World Club Cup: runners-up 1961, 1962.
Champions' Cup: 1961, 1962; runners-up 1963, 1965, 1968, 1988, 1990.
UEFA Cup: runners-up 1983.
Coach: Sven-Goran Eriksson.
Stars: Silvino, Antonio Veloso, Jonas Thern, Vitor Paneira, Mats Magnusson, Sergei Yuran, Rui Aguas, Vasili Kulkov.
● Benfica have lost more Champions' Cup finals than any other team. But their prospects of amends were significantly weakened by the summer departures of Brazil's central defender Ricardo Gomes and midfielder Valdo.

BESIKTAS (Turkey)
Founded: 1903.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 4.
Coach: Gordon Milne.

BRONDBYERNES (Denmark)
Founded: 1964.
Championships: 4.
Cups: one.
Coach: Morten Olsen.

DUNDALK (Rep Ireland)
Founded: 1919.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 8.

ETAR TIRNOVO (Bulgaria)
Founded: 1924.
Championships: one.
Cups: -.

FK AUSTRIA (Austria)
Founded: 1911.
Championships: 20.
Cups: 23 (record).
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1978.
Manager: Herbert Prohaska.
Stars: Franz Wohlfarht, Ernst Aigner, Thomas Flogel, Andreas Ogris, Arminas Narbekovas, Validas Ivanauskas.
● The "Violets" were one of Europe's greatest clubs between the wars, when they dominated the Mitropa Cup, fore-runner of today's European tournaments. That success has not been repeated despite 43 domestic titles.

FLAMURTARI (Albania)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: one.
Cups: 2.

FRAM (Iceland)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: 18.
Cups: 7 (joint record).

GRASSHOPPERS (Switzerland)
Founded: 1886.
Championships: 22 (record).
Cups: 17 (record).

HAMRUN SPARTANS (Malta)
Founded: 1906.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 5.

HANSA ROSTOCK (ex-East Germany)
Founded: 1950.
Championships: one.
Cups: one.

HJK HELSINKI (Finland)
Founded: 1907.
Championships: 8 (record).
Cups: 3.

KAISERSLAUTERN (Germany)
Founded: 1900.
Championships: 3.
Cups: one.
Coach: Karl-Heinz Feldkamp.
Stars: Miroslav Kadlec, Rainer Ernst, Demir Hotic, Bjarne Goldbaek, Stefan Kuntz.
● Kaiserslautern dominated

German champions Kaiserslautern.

CHAMPIONS' CUP CLUBS 1991

western German football under the leadership of Fritz Walter in the early 1950s, just too early for entrance into the Champions' Cup. Their best European season was in reaching the 1982 UEFA Cup semi-finals.

KIEV DYNAMO
(Soviet Union)
Founded: 1927.
Championships: 13 (record).
Cups: 10 (record).
Cup-winners' Cup: 1975, 1986.
Supercup: 1975.
Coach: Anatoli Puzach.
Stars: Ahrik Tsveiba, Sergei Shmatovalenko, Oleg Luzhni, Pavel Yakovenko, Oleg Salenko.
● Kiev provided almost the entire Soviet national team for much of the last 16 years. Unfortunately the club suffered from the heavy demands on their players or they would surely have become the Soviets' first European club champions.

KISPEST-HONVED
(Hungary)
Founded: 1909.
Championships: 12.
Cups: 3.
Coach: Gyorgy Mezey.
Stars: Ervin Kovacs, Janos Marozsan, Istvan Vincze.
● As Honved, the club earned world renown as an army-sponsored team starring Ferenc Puskas, Sandor Kocsis, Jozsef Bozsik and Co. in the early 1950s. Now the club is being disengaged from the army and is reverting to its original name.

IFK GOTHENBURG
(Sweden)
Founded: 1904.
Championships: 12.
Cups: 3.
UEFA Cup: 1982, 1987.
Coach: Roger Gustavsson.
Stars: Tomas Ravelli, Per-Edmund Mordt, Stefan Rehn.
● IFK, nicknamed The Angels, are the only Swedish team to have won European glory, and twice-over, in the UEFA Cup. Their Champions' Cup prospects were spoiled by the summer sale of new star striker Kennet Andersson to Mechelen.

Scottish champions Rangers.

MARSEILLE (France)
Founded: 1899.
Championships: 7.
Cups: 10 (record).
Coach: Tomislav Ivic.
Stars: Basile Boli, Manuel Amoros, Trevor Steven, Franck Sauzee, Chris Waddle, Abedi Pele, Jean-Pierre Papin.
● Multi-millionaire president Bernard Tapie threw out half of last season's team after the disappointing Champions' Cup Final defeat by Red Star Belgrade. Another victim of the Bari shoot-out was veteran Belgian coach Raymond Goethals.

PANATHINIAKOS (Greece)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: 16.
Cups: 12.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1971.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1971.

PSV EINDHOVEN (Holland)
Founded: 1913.
Championships: 12.
Cups: 7.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1988.
Champions' Cup: 1988.
UEFA Cup: 1978.
Coach: Bobby Robson.
Stars: Hans Van Breukelen, Adri Van Tiggelen, Gheorghe Popescu, Erwin Koeman, Gerald Vanenburg, Romario.
● PSV clinched the Dutch title on the last day of the season. Coach Bobby Robson now makes his first attempt on the Champions' Cup after 25 years in management and with a nucleus of the PSV team who beat Benfica in 1988.

PORTADOWN
(Northern Ireland)
Founded: 1924.
Championships: 2.
Cups: -.
Manager: Ronnie McFall.

RANGERS (Scotland)
Founded: 1873.
Championships: 41 (record).
Cups: 24.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1972; runners-up 1961, 1967.
Manager: Walter Smith.
Stars: Andy Goram, Gary Stevens, Richard Gough, Nigel Spackman, Stuart McCall, Oleg Kuznetsov, Alexei Mikhailichenko, Peter Huistra, Mo Johnston, Ally McCoist.
● Rangers have, in 35 years, reached "only" five Euro semi-finals. The last was in 1972 when they went on to win the Cup-winners' Cup. Rangers' "English" transfer policy threatens to misfire now UEFA are regulating "foreign" players.

RED STAR BELGRADE
(Yugoslavia)
Founded: 1945.
Championships: 18 (record).
Cups: 12 (record).
Champions' Cup: 1991.
UEFA Cup: runners-up 1979.
Coach: Vladimir Popovic.
Stars: Miodrag Belodedic, Ilija Najdoski, Dejan Savicevic, Darko Pancev, Dragisa Binic.
● Red Star defend the Champions' Cup without the controversial architect of their shoot-out success, coach Ljubomir Petrovic having joined Spain's Espanol. Probably worse, star forward Robert Prosinecki had been sold to Real Madrid.

ROSENBORG TRONDHEIM (Norway)
Founded: 1917.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 5.

SAMPDORIA (Italy)
Founded: 1946.
Championships: one.
Cups: 3.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1990; runners-up 1989.
Coach: Vujadin Boskov.
Stars: Gianluca Pagliuca, Toninho Cerezo, Beppe Dossena, Srecko Katanec, Pietro Vierchowod, Roberto Mancini, Paulo Silas, Gianluca Vialli, Attilio Lombardo.
● Sampdoria entered their first Champions' Cup campaign with morale sky-high after two pre-season triumphs - in the Makita tournament against Arsenal at Highbury and then against Roma in the Italian Supercup.

Red Star Belgrade's Dragisa Binic.

SPARTA (Czechoslovakia)
Founded: 1893.
Championships: 20 (record).
Cups: 7.

UNIVERSITATEA CRAIOVA (Romania)
Founded: 1948.
Championships: 4.
Cups: 5.

UNION SPORTIVE
(Luxembourg)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: 5.
Cups: 9.

ZAGLEBIE LUBIN (Poland)
Founded: 1946.
Championships: one.
Cups: -.

CHAMPIONS' CUP DRAW

First Round

Anderlecht v Grasshoppers
Arsenal v FK Austria
Barcelona v Hansa Rostock
Besiktas v PSV Eindhoven
Brondby v Zaglebie Lubin
Fram Reykjavik v Panathinaikos
Hamrun Spartans v Benfica
Kispest-Honved v Dundalk
IFK Gothenburg v Flamurtari
Kaiserlautern v Etar Tirnovo
Kiev Dynamo v HJK Helsinki
Red Star Belgrade v Portadown
Sampdoria v Rosenborg
Sparta v Rangers
Uni. Craiova v Apollon Limassol
Union Luxembourg v Marseille

CHAMPIONS' CUP DATES

Wednesday 18 September
1st rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 02 October
1st rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 23 October
2nd rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 06 November
2nd rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 27 November
Quarter-final group matches.

Wednesday 11 December
Quarter-final group matches.

Wednesday 4 March
Quarter-final group matches.

Wednesday 18 March
Quarter-final group matches.

Wednesday 1 April
Quarter-final group matches.

Wedneday 15 April
Quarter-final group matches.

Wednesday 20 May
Final.

1991 UEFA Cup Final: Internazionale v Roma.

1991 Champions' Cup Final: Marseille v Red Star Belgrade.

1991 Cup-winners' Cup Final: Barcelona v Manchester United.

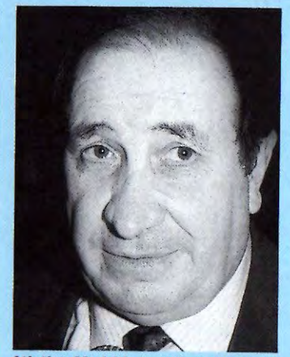
CUP-WINNERS'CUP

1991 CLUBS

THIS SEASON'S CUP-WINNERS' CUP ENTRANTS: THEIR COMPLETE RECORDS IN THIS COMPETITION UP TO JUNE 1991.

Yrs	Club	Nat	P	W	D	L	F	A
7	Atletico Madrid	Spa	48	29	10	9	85	45
4	***Man United***	***Eng***	***27***	***15***	***7***	***5***	***52***	***31***
6	FC Porto	Por	31	15	6	10	43	38
5	**Tottenham**	**Eng**	**25**	**16**	**3**	**6**	**58**	**31**
6	Hajduk Split	Yug	26	8	3	15	29	36
2	Banik Ostrava	Cze	12	9	0	3	21	13
6	Galatasaray	Tur	22	6	6	10	25	44
1	Feyenoord	Hol	8	6	0	2	18	10
4	Monaco	Fra	14	2	8	4	14	19
5	Sion	Swi	16	4	4	8	21	34
3	IFK Norrkoping	Swe	10	4	2	4	16	13
6	**Swansea City**	**Wal**	**16**	**3**	**4**	**9**	**31**	**27**
3	Bruges	Bel	10	4	1	5	18	19
3	Partizan Tirana	Alb	8	2	2	4	8	10
1	Werder Bremen	Ger	4	2	1	1	7	6
1	GKS Katowice	Pol	4	2	1	1	6	5
4	Valur Reykjavik	Ice	8	0	2	6	5	27
3	Omonia Nicosia	Cyp	6	0	1	5	2	12
5	Valletta	Mal	10	0	1	9	3	44
1	**Galway United**	**Roi**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**2**	**4**
1	Ilves Tampere	Fin	2	0	0	2	3	7
2	**Glenavon**	**NI**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**4**	**14**
1	Jeunesse d'Esch	Lux	2	0	0	2	0	21

Note: The following clubs are making their debut in the Cup-winners' Cup this season: OB Odense (Den), Sparkasse Stockerau (Aus), **Motherwell (Sco),** Athinaikos (Gre), Stahl Eisenhuettenstadt (Ger), FC Bacau (Rom), Fyllingen Idrettslag (Nor) and CSKA Moscow (USSR).



Atletico Madrid president Jesus Gil.

ATLETICO MADRID (Spain)

Founded: 1901.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 7.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1974.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1974.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1962; runners-up 1963, 1986.
Coach: Luis Aragones.
Stars: Tomas, Juanito, Paulo Futre, Gerhard Rodax.

● Atletico have made headlines throughout the world since the presidential takeover by controversial Jesus Gil. His impatience with coaches is legendary and the chances of even highly-experienced Luis lasting the season are remote.

ATHINAIKOS (Greece)

Founded: 1939.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

BACAU (Romania)

Founded: 1950.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

BANIK OSTRAVA

(Czechoslovakia)
Founded: 1922.
Championships: 3.
Cups: 3.

BRUGGE (Belgium)

Founded: 1891.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 5.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1978.
UEFA Cup: runners-up 1976.
Coach: Georges Leekens.
Stars: Laszlo Disztl, Lorenzo Staelens, Franky Van der Elst, Jan Ceulemans.
● Brugge lost a key man when Australian striker Frank Farina was sold to Italy's Bari during the summer. But their cup-fighting reputation is legendary and Van der Elst and Ceulemans are two of Europe's most experienced competitors.

CSKA MOSCOW

(Soviet Union)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 4.

Brugge's Franky Van der Elst.

EISENHUETTENSTADT

(Germany)
Founded: 1950.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

FERENCVAROS (Hungary)

Founded: 1901.
Championships: 23 (record).
Cups: 15 (record).
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1975.
Fairs' Cup: 1965; runners-up 1968.

FEYENOORD (Holland)

Founded: 1908.
Championships: 13.
Cups: 7.
World Club Cup: 1970.
Champions' Cup: 1970.
UEFA Cup: 1974.
Coach: Hans Dorjee.
Stars: Henk Fraser, John Metgod, Ioan Sabau, Rob Witschge, Stanislav Griga, Jozsef Kiprich.
●Feyenoord were once considered the richest club in Europe. In the past decade they have become poor relations. Now they are attempting a comeback at home and abroad under the overal management of ex-World Cup star Wim Jansen (below).

FYLLINGEN (Norway)

Founded: 1946.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

GALATASARAY (Turkey)

Founded: 1905.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 12 (record).

GALWAY UNITED

(Republic of Ireland)
Founded: 1977.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

GKS KATOWICE (Poland)

Founded: 1964.
Championships: -.
Cups: 2.

GLENAVON (N Ireland)

Founded: 1889.
Championships: 3.
Cups: 4.

HAJDUK SPLIT (Yugoslavia)

Founded: 1911.
Championships: 9.
Cups: 9.

ILVES TAMPERE (Finland)

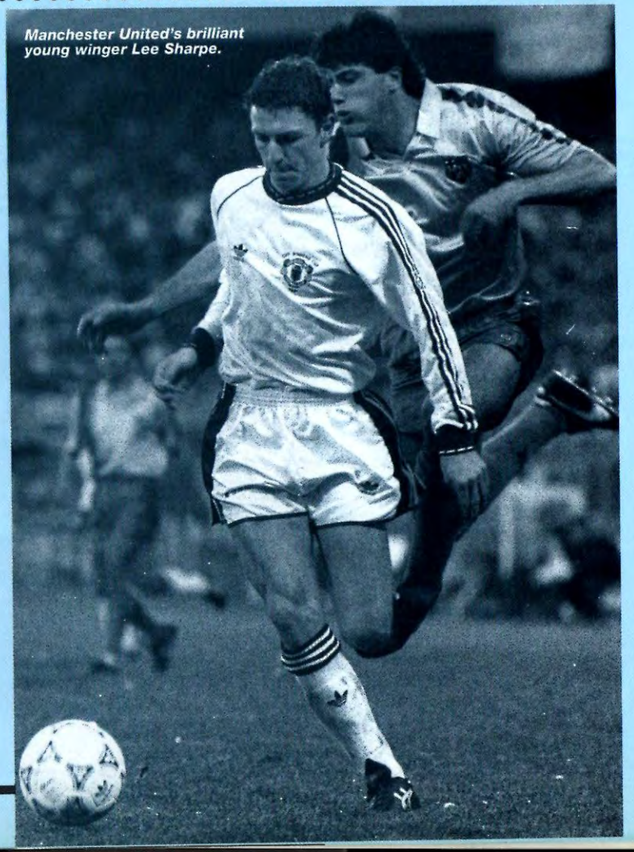
Founded: 1931.
Championships: 2.
Cups: one.

JEUNESSE D'ESCH

(Luxembourg)
Founded: 1907.
Championships: 21 (record).
Cups: 9.

LEVSKI (Bulgaria)

Founded: 1914.
Championships: 16.
Cups: 16 (record).



Manchester United's brilliant young winger Lee Sharpe.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP CLUBS 1991

MANCHESTER UNITED
(England)
Founded: 1878.
Championships: 7.
FA Cups: 7.
League Cup: runners-up 1983, 1991.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1968.
Champions' Cup: 1968.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1991.
Manager: Alex Ferguson.
Stars: Peter Schmeichel, Gary Pallister, Bryan Robson, Steve Bruce, Lee Sharpe, Mark Hughes, Neil Webb, Brian McClair, Andrei Kanchelskis.
● United's victory in the Cup-winners' Cup was the ideal signal that English clubs are back in Europe. A repeat is in prospect now the signings of Schmeichel and Kanchelskis have given United added dimensions.

MONACO (France)
Founded: 1924.
Championships: 5.
Cups: 5.

MOTHERWELL (Scotland)
Founded: 1886.
Championships: one.
Cups: 2.
League Cup: one.
Manager: Tommy McLean.

NORRKOPING (Sweden)
Founded: 1897.
Championships: 12.
Cups: 5.

OB ODENSE (Denmark)
Founded: 1887.
Championships: 3.
Cups: 2.

OMONIA NICOSIA (Cyprus)
Founded: 1948.
Championships: 16 (record).
Cups: 9.

PARTIZANI (Albania)
Founded: 1946.
Championships: 14.
Cups: 12 (joint record).

PORTO (Portugal)
Founded: 1906.
Championships: 11.
Cups: 7.
World Club Cup: 1987.
Champions' Cup: 1987.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1984.
Supercup: 1987.
Coach: Alberto da Silva.
Stars: Vitor Baia, Aloisio, Joao Pinto, Daniel Timofte, Emil Kostadinov, Petar Mikhtarsky.
● Porto look to the Bulgarian duo of Kostadinov and Mikhtarsky for the goals to emulate their World and European club successes of 1987. Former Brazil boss Alberto da Silva succeeded Artur Jorge in charge during the summer.

ROMA (Italy)
Founded: 1927.
Championships: 2.
Cups: 7.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1984.
Fairs'/UEFA Cup: 1961; runners-up 1991.
Coach: Ottavio Bianchi.

Action from the 1984 Final as Porto's Jaime Magalhaes (right) tangles with Juventus striker Vignola.

Roma's German striker Rudi Voller.

Stars: Sebastiano Nela, Aldair, Giuseppe Giannini, Thomas Hassler, Rudi Voller.
● Roma were disappointed to lose to Inter in the UEFA Cup Final last season but made amends by defeating Sampdoria to win the Italian cup. They fell to Real Zaragoza in the first round on their last Cup-winners' Cup attempt.

SION (Switzerland)
Founded: 1909.
Championships: -.
Cups: 6.

STOCKERAU (Austria)
Founded: 1907.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

SWANSEA (Wales)
Founded: 1900.
Championships: -.
Welsh Cups: 9.
Manager: Frank Burrows.

Tottenham striker Gary Lineker.

TOTTENHAM (England)
Founded: 1882.
Championships: 2.
Cups: 8 (record).
Cup-winners' Cup: 1963.
UEFA Cup: 1984; runners-up 1973.
Manager: Peter Shreeves.
Stars: Erik Thorstvedt, Gary Mabbutt, Paul Stewart, Paul Gascoigne, Nayim, Gordon Durie, Gary Lineker.
● Spurs need European success for financial reasons as well as sporting ones. If they reach the later stages they may well have Paul Gascoigne's assistance as he seeks to prove his fitness to Lazio, his future Italian employers.

VALLETTA (Malta)
Founded: 1910.
Championships: 13.
Cups: 6.

VALUR (Iceland)
Founded: 1911.
Championships: 19.
Cups: 5.

WERDER BREMEN
(Germany)
Founded: 1899.
Championships: 2.
Cups: 2.

CUP-WINNERS' CUP DRAW

Preliminary Round
OB Odense v Galway United
SV Stockerau v Tottenham

1st Round
FC Bacau v Werder Bremen
CSKA Moscow v Roma
Eisenhuettenstadt v Galatasaray
Fyllingen v Atletico Madrid
GKS Katowice v Motherwell
Glenavon v Ilves Tampere
Hajduk Split v Stockerau or Tottenham
Levski v Ferencvaros
Norrkoping v Jeunesse d'Esch
OB or Galway v Banik Ostrava
Omonia Nicosia v Brugge
Athinaikos v Manchester United
Partizan Tirana v Feyenoord
Sion v Valur Reykjavik
Swansea v Monaco
Valletta v FC Porto

C.W.C. DATES

Wednesday 21 August
Prelim rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 04 September
Prelim rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 18 September
1st rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 02 October
1st rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 23 October
2nd rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 06 November
2nd rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 4 March
Quarter final 1st leg

Wednesday 18 March
Quarter final 2nd leg

Wednesday 1 April
Semi-finals, 1st leg.

Wednesday 15 April
Semi-finals, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 6 May
Final.

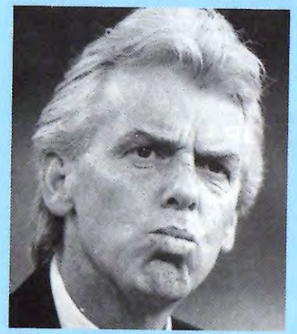
UEFA CUP

1991 CLUBS

ABERDEEN (Scotland)
Founded: 1903.
Championships: 4.
Cups: 7.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1983.
Supercup: 1983.
Manager: Alex Smith.
Stars: Theo Snelders, Hans Gillhaus, Alex McLeish, Jim Bett.
● Aberdeen triumphed in the 1983 Cup-winners' Cup beating Real Madrid 2-1 in the Final. Their manager then was Alex Ferguson who captured the trophy again last season with Manchester United.

AEK ATHENS (Greece)
Founded: 1924.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 9.

AJAX AMSTERDAM (Holland)
Founded: 1900.
Championships: 23 (record).
Cups: 11 (record).
World Club Cup: 1972.
Champions' Cup: 1971, 1972, 1973.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1987; runners-up 1988.
Supercup: 1973, 1974; runners-up 1987.
Coach: Leo Beenhakker.
Stars: Stanley Menzo, Jan Wouters, Brian Roy, John Van't Schip, Stefan Pettersson.
● Ajax won a hat-trick of Champions' Cups in the mid-70's with Johan Cruyff their star player. Cruyff returned to manage them to the 1987 Cup-winners' Cup.


Ajax manager Leo Beenhakker.

ANORTHOSIS (Cyprus)
Founded: 1911.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 4.

AUXERRE (France)
Founded: 1905.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

BANGOR (N Ireland)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

BAYERN MUNICH (Germany)
Founded: 1900.
Championships: 12 (record).
Cups: 8 (record).
World Club Cup: 1976.
Champions' Cup: 1974, 1975, 1976; runners-up 1982, 1987.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1967.
Supercup: runners-up 1975, 1976.
Coach: Jupp Heynckes.
Stars: Thomas Berthold, Bernardo, Mazinho II, Olaf Thon, Roland Wohlfarth, Brian Laudrup.
● Bayern are Germany's most successful club with a hat-trick of Champions' Cup successes (1974-76) and a victory in the 1967 Cup-winners' Cup. The UEFA Cup is the only European trophy they have not won.

BK1903 (Denmark)
Founded: 1903.
Championships: 7.
Cups: 2.

THIS SEASON'S UEFA CUP ENTRANTS: THEIR COMPLETE RECORDS IN THIS COMPETITION UP TO JUNE 1991.

Yrs	Club	Nat	P	W	D	L	F	A
20	*Inter Milan*	*Ita*	*115*	*54*	*25*	*36*	*187*	*114*
15	Sporting Lisbon	Por	71	32	19	20	126	67
11	VfB Stuttgart	Ger	64	33	14	17	121	67
10	Hamburg	Ger	64	34	10	20	118	77
12	Moscow Spartak	USSR	58	32	10	16	91	65
14	HASK-Gradjanski	Yug	63	24	18	21	100	77
6	**Liverpool**	**Eng**	**46**	**28**	**9**	**9**	**90**	**30**
9	Eintracht Frankfurt	Ger	50	25	8	17	96	65
6	Bayern Munich	Ger	45	24	7	14	95	52
6	Real Madrid	Spa	40	19	6	15	67	48
8	Ajax	Hol	38	19	3	16	80	41
10	Partizan Belgrade	Yug	38	17	7	14	64	55
10	Torino	Ita	36	13	9	14	49	46
10	**Aberdeen**	**Sco**	**32**	**12**	**9**	**11**	**42**	**42**
4	Moscow Torpedo	USSR	20	12	3	5	40	25
13	FC Utrecht	Hol	32	10	7	15	41	62
4	Neuchatel Xamax	Swi	22	9	8	5	33	22
9	AEK Athens	Gre	32	11	3	18	34	54
6	Dinamo Bucharest	Rom	22	9	4	9	39	25
8	PAOK Salonika	Gre	20	8	5	7	18	32
6	FC Tirol	Swi	22	8	3	11	27	34
6	Sturm Graz	Aus	22	6	6	10	23	29
4	Auxerre	Fra	16	7	3	6	28	17
3	Groningen	Hol	16	7	3	6	23	21
5	**Celtic**	**Sco**	**16**	**5**	**5**	**6**	**24**	**22**
11	Lausanne	Swi	28	6	3	19	42	75
6	Boavista	Por	18	6	2	10	20	28
5	Moscow Dynamo	USSR	14	5	3	6	15	15
6	Lyon	Fra	16	6	1	9	29	40
7	Slavia Sofia	Bul	16	5	3	8	18	35
6	Oster Vaxjo	Swe	18	6	0	12	24	34
6	Gent	Bel	18	3	6	9	18	31
2	Slovan Bratislava	Cze	8	4	2	2	23	12
5	CSKA Sofia	Bul	12	3	3	6	13	22
2	Pecsi Munkas	Hun	8	3	0	5	7	9
3	Gornik Zabrze	Pol	8	1	3	4	10	16
7	B1903 Copenhagen	Den	16	1	3	12	20	44
1	Osasuna	Spa	4	2	0	2	4	4
1	Ikast	Den	2	1	0	1	2	2
1	Floriana	Mal	2	1	0	1	1	6
2	Trabzonspor	Tur	4	1	0	3	1	8
3	Spora Luxembourg	Lux	6	1	0	5	3	28
1	Hallescher FC	Ger	1	0	1	0	0	0
1	Kuusysi Lahti	Fin	2	0	1	1	2	3
1	Mechelen	Bel	2	0	1	1	2	3
1	Sigma Olomouc	Cze	2	0	1	1	1	5
2	Steaua Bucharest	Rom	4	0	1	3	4	11
1	MP Mikkeli	Fin	2	0	0	2	0	6
1	Reykjavik	Ice	2	0	0	2	0	7

Note: The following teams are making their debut in the UEFA Cup this season: **Cork City (Rol),** Vac Izzo (Hun), Cannes (Fra), Salgueiros (Por), Germinal Ekeren (Bel), **Bangor (NI),** Orebro (Swe), Tromso (Nor), Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyp), CSKA Sofia (Bul), Parma (Ita), Rot Weiss Erfurt (Ger), Vilaznia Shkoder (Alb),

BOAVISTA (Portugal)
Founded: 1903.
Championships: -.
Cups: 3.

CANNES (France)
Founded: 1902.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

CELTIC (Scotland)
Founded: 1888.
Championships: 35.
Cups: 27 (record).
League Cups: 9.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1967.
Champions' Cup: 1967; runners-up 1970.
Manager: Liam Brady.
Stars: Pat Bonner, Charlie Nicholas, Paul McStay, Dariusz Dziekanowski, Tony Cascarino.
● Celtic were the first British club to win the Champions' Cup, beating Inter Milan 2-1 in the 1967 Final. They lost the 1970 Champions' Cup Final to Feyenoord and have never reached such heights again.

CORK CITY (Rep of Ireland)
Founded: 1984.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

CSKA SOFIA (Bulgaria)
Founded: 1919.
Championships: 26 (record).
Cups: 13.

DINAMO BUCHAREST (Romania)
Founded: 1948.
Championships: 13.
Cups: 9.

EINTRACHT FRANKFURT (Germany)
Founded: 1899.
Championships: one.
Cups: 4.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1960.
UEFA Cup: 1980.

FLORIANA (Malta)
Founded: 1900.
Championships: 24 (record).
Cups: 16.

GENOA (Italy)
Founded: 1893.
Championships: 9.
Cups: one.
Coach: Osvaldo Bagnoli.
Stars: Branco, Tomas Skuhravy, Carlos Aguilera.
● Genoa's most successful period was at the turn of the century when they won six Italian titles. They also won the Italian Cup in 1937, but this is their first venture into Europe.

GENT (Belgium)
Founded: 1896.
Championships: -.
Cups: 2.

GERMINAL EKEREN (Belgium)
Founded: 1920.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

GIJON (Spain)
Founded: 1905.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

GORNIK ZABRZE (Poland)
Founded: 1948.
Championships: 14 (record).
Cups: 6.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1970.

GRONINGEN (Holland)
Founded: 1921.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

HALLESCHER FC (ex-East Germany)
Founded: 1947.
Championships: 2.
Cups: 2.

HAMBURG (Germany)
Founded: 1887.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 3.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1983.
Champions' Cup: 1983.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1977.
Supercup: runners-up 1977, 1983.
Coach: Gerd-Volker Schock.
Stars: Dietmar Beiersdorfer, Frank Rohde, Waldemar Matysik, Armin Eck, Thomas von Heesen, Nando.
● Hamburg have won both the Champions' Cup (1983) and the Cup-winners' Cup (1977). Financial problems have hindered the club recently, but the sale of Thomas Doll to Lazio have helped ease these difficulties.

HASK-GRADJANSKI (Yugoslavia)
Founded: 1945.
Formerly Dinamo Zagreb
Championships: 9.
Cups: 8.
Fairs' Cup: 1967; runners-up 1963.

IKAST (Denmark)
Founded: 1935.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

INTERNAZIONALE (Italy)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: 13.
Cups: 3.
World Club Cup: 1964, 1965.
Champions' Cup: 1964, 1965; runners-up 1967, 1972.
UEFA Cup: 1991.
Coach: Corrado Orrico.
Stars: Walter Zenga, Giuseppe Bergomi, Ricardo Ferri, Andreas Brehme, Jurgen Klinsmann, Lothar Matthaus, Nicola Berti.
● Inter are one of Europe's most successful clubs and will be defending the UEFA Cup under new coach Corrado Orrico, following Giovanni Trapattoni's departure to Juventus.

UEFA CUP CLUBS 1991

KR (Iceland)
Founded: 1899.
Championships: 20 (record).
Cups: 7 (joint record).

KUUSYSI LAHTI (Finland)
Founded: 1934.
Championships: 3.
Cups: 2.

LAUSANNE (Switzerland)
Founded: 1896.
Championships: 7.
Cups: 7.

LIVERPOOL (England)
Founded: 1892.
Championships: 18 (record).
Cups: 4.
World Club Cup: runners-up 1981, 1984.
Champions' Cup: 1977, 1978, 1981, 1984; runners-up 1985.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1965.
UEFA Cup: 1973, 1976.
Supercup: 1977; runners-up 1984.
Manager: Graeme Souness.
Stars: Bruce Grobbelaar, Steve Nicol, Glenn Hysen, Mark Wright, Ray Houghton, Ronnie Whelan, Ian Rush, John Barnes, Dean Saunders.
● Liverpool are Britain's most successful club, only the Cup-winners' Cup has eluded them. New manager Graeme Souness has spent heavily rebuilding a squad top-heavy with "foreign" players.

Liverpool striker Dean Saunders.

LYON (France)
Founded: 1945.
Championships: -.
Cups: 3.

OSTER VAXJO (Sweden)
Founded: 1930.
Championships: 4.
Cups: one.

MECHELEN (Belgium)
Founded: 1904.
Championships: 4.
Cups: one.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1988.

MOSCOW DYNAMO (Soviet Union)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: 11.
Cups: 6.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1972.

MOSCOW SPARTAK (Soviet Union)
Founded: 1922.
Championships: 12.
Cups: 9.
Coach: Oleg Romantsev.
Stars: Stanislav Cherchesov, Alexander Mostovoi, Igor Shalimov, Valeri Shmarov.
● Spartak are the strongest of the three Moscow sides in the UEFA Cup this season, despite losing star player Vasili Kulkov to Benfica during the summer.

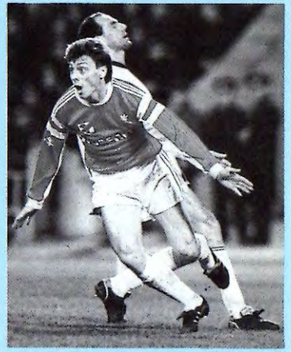
MOSCOW TORPEDO (Soviet Union)
Founded: 1924.
Championships: 3.
Cups: 6.

MP MIKKELI (Finland)
Founded: 1929.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

OSASUNA (Spain)
Founded: 1920.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

OREBRO (Sweden)
Founded: 1908.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

OVIEDO (Spain)
Founded: 1926.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.


Spartak Moscow's Valeri Shmarov.

Parma's Swedish star Thomas Brolin.

PAOK (Greece)
Founded: 1926.
Championships: 2.
Cups: 2.

PARMA (Italy)
Founded: 1913.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.
Coach: Gian Batsita Pastorello.
Stars: Taffarel, Georges Grun, Alberto Di Chiara, Allessandro Melli, Thomas Brolin.
● Parma had a magnificent first season back in the "Serie A", culminating in qualification for the UEFA Cup. Foreign stars Taffarel (Brazil), Grun (Belgium) and Brolin (Sweden) form the backbone of their side.

PARTIZAN (Yugoslavia)
Founded: 1945.
Championships: 11.
Cups: 5.
Champions' Cup: runners-up 1966.

PECS (Hungary)
Founded: 1950.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

Former Real skipper Santillana with the UEFA Cup in 1985.

REAL MADRID (Spain)
Founded: 1902.
Championships: 25 (record).
Cups: 16.
World Club Cup: 1960; runners-up 1966.
Champions' Cup: 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1966; runners-up 1962, 1981.
Cup-winners' Cup: runners-up 1971, 1983.
UEFA Cup: 1985, 1986.
Coach: Raddy Antic.
Stars: Michel, Emilio Butragueno, Robert Prosinecki, Hugo Sanchez, Chendo, Gheorghe Hagi, Luis Enrique, Riccardo Rocha
● Real won the first five Champions' Cups and added a sixth in 1966. They have also won the UEFA Cup twice (1985 and 86). With Yugoslav star Robert Prosinecki in midfield, they will be among the favourites for the trophy this season.

ROT-WEISS ERFURT (ex-East Germany)
Founded: 1966.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

SALGUEIROS (Portugal)
Founded: 1911.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

SIGMA OLOMOUC (Czechoslovakia)
Founded: 1919.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

UEFA CUP CLUBS 1991

SLAVIA (Bulgaria)
Founded: 1913.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 6.

SLOVAN BRATISLAVA (Czechoslovakia)
Founded: 1919.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 6.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1969.

SPORA (Luxembourg)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: 11.
Cups: 8.

SPORTING (Portugal)
Founded: 1906.
Championships: 16.
Cups: 11.
Cup-winners' Cup: 1964.
Coach: Mario Marinho.
Stars: Tomislav Ivkovic, Venancio, Luizinho, Jorge Cadette.
● Lisbon's "other" club have a fine European record. They won the Cup-winners' Cup in 1964 and last season reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup, losing to eventual winners Inter.

STEAUA (Romania)
Founded: 1947.
Championships: 14 (record).
Cups: 17 (record).
World Club Cup: runners-up 1986.
Champions' Cup: 1986; runners-up 1990.

STURM GRAZ (Austria)
Founded: 1909.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

STUTTGART (Germany)
Founded: 1893.
Championships: 3.

Venancio of Sporting Lisbon

Cups: 2.
UEFA Cup: runners-up 1989.

TIROL (Austria)
Founded: 1913.
Championships: 7.
Cups: -.

TORINO (Italy)
Founded: 1906.
Championships: 8.
Cups: 4.

TRABZONSPOR (Turkey)
Founded: 1923.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 3.

TROMSO (Norway)
Founded: 1920.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

UTRECHT (Holland)
Founded: 1902.
Championships: -.
Cups: one.

VAC IZZO (Hungary)
Founded: 1920.
Championships: -.
Cups: -.

VLLAZNIA SHKODER (Albania)
Founded: 1946.
Championships: 6.
Cups: 5.

XAMAX NEUCHATEL (Switzerland)
Founded: 1954.
Championships: 2.
Cups: -.

UEFA CUP DRAW

First Round

Aberdeen v BK 1903
Ajax Amsterdam v Orebro
Auxerre v Ikast
Bangor (NI) v Olomouc
Boavista v Internazionale
Cannes v Salgueiros
Celtic v Germinal Ekeren
Cork City v Bayern Munich
CSKA Sofia v Parma
Eintracht Frankfurt v Spora
Gent v Lausanne
Gijon v Partizan Belgrade
Groningen v RW Erfurt
Hallescher FC v Moscow Torpedo
Hamburg v Gornik Zabrze
Hask-G Zagreb v Trabzonspor
Liverpool v Kuusysi Lahti
Lyon v Osters Vaxjo
Moscow Spartak v MP Mikkeli
Osasuna v Slavia Sofia
Oviedo v Genoa
PAOK v Mechelen
Real Madrid v Slovan Bratislava
Reykjavik v Torino
S. Lisbon v Dinamo Bucharest
Steaua Bucharest v Famagusta
Sturm Graz v Utrecht
Stuttgart v Pecs
Tirol v Tromso
Vaci Izzo v Moscow Dynamo
Vllaznia Shkoder v AEK Athens
Xamax Neuchatel v Floriana

UEFA CUP DATES

Wednesday 18 September
1st rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 02 October
1st rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 23 October
2nd rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 06 November
2nd rnd, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 27 November
3rd rnd, 1st leg.

Wednesday 11 December
3rd rnd, 2nd leg

Wedneday 4 March
Quarter-final 1st leg

Wednesday 18 March
Quarter-final 2nd leg

Wednesday 1 April
Semi-finals, 1st leg

Wednesday 15 April
Semi-finals, 2nd leg.

Wednesday 29 April
Final, 1st leg.

Wednesday 13 May
Final, 2nd leg.

THIS SEASON'S EUROPEAN ENTRANTS: THEIR COMPLETE RECORDS IN ALL THREE EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS UP TO JUNE 1991.

Yrs	Club	Nat	P	W	D	L	F	A
35	Real Madrid	Spa	235	133	38	64	514	254
36	Barcelona	Spa	233	124	49	60	459	254
24	Bayern Munich	Ger	178	101	39	38	372	175
32	Benfica	Por	179	88	42	49	324	177
31	Anderlecht	Bel	176	95	26	55	336	224
29	Inter Milan	Ita	178	87	41	50	283	161
21	**Liverpool**	**Eng**	**140**	**84**	**26**	**30**	**278**	**106**
32	Red Star Belgrade	Yug	167	81	30	56	321	224
27	Ajax	Hol	135	76	19	40	262	133
30	**Rangers**	**Sco**	**147**	**70**	**27**	**50**	**245**	**193**
19	Hamburg	Ger	125	70	20	35	252	147
26	Atletico Madrid	Spa	130	69	21	40	210	143
27	**Celtic**	**Sco**	**128**	**66**	**24**	**38**	**235**	**126**
30	Sporting Lisbon	Por	135	57	32	46	243	160
20	Kiev Dynamo	USSR	106	59	25	22	173	84
29	FC Porto	Por	118	57	19	42	182	140
21	Feyenoord	Hol	105	56	19	30	218	122
14	**Man United**	**Eng**	**95**	**53**	**23**	**19**	**199**	**101**
22	PSV Eindhoven	Hol	110	53	22	35	197	108
11	**Tottenham**	**Eng**	**87**	**53**	**16**	**18**	**208**	**84**
17	AS Roma	Ita	102	50	20	32	153	102
22	Ferencvaros	Hun	108	50	19	39	188	140
30	CSKA Sofia	Bul	116	48	18	50	173	169
18	Moscow Spartak	USSR	88	44	17	27	137	98
14	Eintracht Frankfurt	Ger	81	43	13	25	160	103
25	Austria Vienna	Aus	104	35	28	41	147	156
17	Hajduk Split	Yug	86	43	10	33	144	100
24	HASK-Gradjanski	Yug	96	35	25	36	132	118
20	**Aberdeen**	**Sco**	**79**	**37**	**18**	**24**	**125**	**86**
24	Dinamo Bucharest	Rom	94	38	16	40	148	126
15	IFK Gothenburg	Swe	74	37	16	21	135	98
20	Bruges	Bel	89	38	12	39	152	135
13	VfB Stuttgart	Ger	70	34	17	19	128	77
22	Steaua Bucharest	Rom	81	33	18	31	114	106
17	Sparta Prague	Cze	70	32	13	25	128	97
17	Kispest-Honved	Hun	70	34	8	28	126	111
19	Partizan Belgrade	Yug	77	32	11	34	132	122
17	Gornik Zabrze	Pol	68	30	13	25	117	101
21	Grasshoppers	Swi	82	30	13	39	135	128
16	Uni. Craiova	Rom	62	28	10	24	75	69
21	Levski Sofia	Bul	74	25	14	35	126	137
8	**Arsenal**	**Eng**	**51**	**26**	**11**	**14**	**91**	**43**
25	Panathinaikos	Gre	81	23	17	41	96	131
14	Torino	Ita	59	23	15	21	81	67
12	Marseille	Fra	49	26	8	15	78	56
10	Werder Bremen	Ger	50	24	11	15	89	55
13	Banik Ostrava	Cze	56	25	9	22	80	69
12	Moscow Torpedo	USSR	47	22	14	11	72	46
20	Galatasaray	Tur	69	20	16	33	78	121
12	Slovan Bratislava	Cze	45	24	6	15	81	60
8	Kaiserslautern	Ger	46	25	3	18	92	71
9	Moscow Dynamo	USSR	43	20	11	12	61	40
18	FC Tirol	Swi	58	21	8	29	79	106
16	PAOK Salonika	Gre	44	17	11	16	47	67
18	AEK Athens	Gre	58	19	7	32	74	107
5	Sampdoria	Ita	32	18	7	7	43	27
13	Monaco	Fra	46	12	14	20	62	66
4	Mechelen	Bel	25	15	7	3	37	14
7	Neuchatel Xamax	Swi	32	13	10	9	49	37
10	Lyon	Fra	38	15	6	17	60	68
13	Slavia Sofia	Bul	41	14	6	21	49	66
11	IFK Norrkoping	Swe	34	9	12	13	42	47
16	Lausanne	Swi	47	12	6	29	68	107
13	FC Utrecht	Hol	36	11	7	18	48	73
19	Omonia Nicosia	Cyp	48	12	5	31	53	109
9	Boavista	Por	30	11	6	13	42	39
5	Brondby	Den	24	10	7	7	33	24
9	Sion	Swi	28	10	5	13	38	54
4	Groningen	Hol	20	10	3	7	31	28
7	Sturm Graz	Aus	28	8	7	13	29	35
9	Trabzonspor	Tur	22	9	2	11	19	35
13	**Dundalk**	**Rol**	**34**	**7**	**6**	**21**	**25**	**81**
22	Jeunesse d'Esch	Lux	49	7	6	36	49	162
13	B1903 Copenhagen	Den	33	7	5	21	43	71
10	Rosenborg	Nor	26	8	3	15	31	61
4	Auxerre	Fra	16	7	3	6	28	17
11	Oster Vaxjo	Swe	28	7	3	18	29	50
15	Besiktas	Tur	32	6	5	21	21	62
12	HJK Helsinki	Fin	30	8	0	22	28	90
8	Gent	Bel	22	4	7	11	20	36
11	Partizan Tirana	Alb	23	5	4	14	15	35
15	Valur Reykjavik	Ice	32	3	8	21	18	92
8	Kuusysi Lahti	Fin	20	4	4	12	16	37
14	Fram Reykjavik	Ice	32	5	1	26	16	91
6	**Swansea City**	**Wal**	**16**	**3**	**4**	**9**	**31**	**27**
6	GKS Katowice	Pol	16	4	2	10	17	25
5	Sporting Gijon	Spa	12	3	3	6	9	13
1	FC Bacau	Rom	8	3	2	3	12	11
3	Hansa Rostock	Fer	10	4	0	6	15	19
5	Flamurtari	Alb	14	3	2	9	14	22
15	Floriana	Mal	30	2	4	24	14	124
2	CSKA Moscow	USSR	6	3	1	2	7	5
6	Hamrun Spartans	Mal	14	3	1	10	5	30
2	Vllaznia Shkoder	Alb	6	3	0	3	9	6
3	Pecsi Munkas	Hun	10	3	0	7	7	12
3	**Portadown**	**NI**	**8**	**2**	**2**	**4**	**8**	**27**
15	Union Luxembourg	Lux	30	2	2	26	12	114
7	Appollon Limassol	Cyp	14	1	3	10	8	55
1	Osasuna	Spa	4	2	0	2	4	4
4	Ilves Tampere	Fin	8	2	0	6	10	22
9	Spora Luxembourg	Lux	19	2	0	17	12	87
3	MP Mikkeli	Fin	6	1	1	4	4	18
15	Valletta	Mal	30	1	1	28	10	126
2	Hallescher FC	Ger	3	0	2	1	3	5
2	Ikast	Den	4	1	0	3	3	5
6	**Glenavon**	**NI**	**12**	**0**	**2**	**10**	**6**	**32**
1	Tromso	Nor	2	0	1	1	0	1
1	Etar Tirnovo	Bul	2	0	1	1	0	3
1	Sigma Olomouc	Cze	2	0	1	1	1	5
5	OB Odense	Den	10	0	1	9	8	31
5	Anor. Famagusta	Cyp	10	0	1	9	2	51
1	Zaglebie Lubin	Pol	2	0	0	2	0	2
1	**Cork City**	**Rol**	**2**	**0**	**0**	**2**	**0**	**6**
2	**Galway United**	**Rol**	**4**	**0**	**0**	**4**	**4**	**12**
7	Reyjkavik	Ice	14	0	0	14	10	66

Note: The following clubs are making their debut in European competition: Sparkasse Stockerau (Aus), Germinal Ekeren (Bel), Cannes (Fra), Stahl Eisenhuettenstadt (Ger), Rot Weiss Erfurt (Ger), Athinaikos (Gre), **Bangor (NI),** Genoa (Ita), Parma (Ita), Fyllingen Idrettslag (Nor), Salgueiros (Por), **Motherwell (Sco),** Real Oviedo (Spa), Orebro (Swe) and Vaci Izzo (Hun).

euro curios

●FRANCISCO GENTO, outside left of Real Madrid, holds the record of SIX winners' medals in the Champions' Cup - courtesy of appearances in Madrid's victories from 1956 to 1960 and in 1966.

●THE first Cup-winners' Cup Final, in which Fiorentina of Italy beat Rangers, was played over two legs.

●VALENCIA were the first club to win a European trophy in a penalty shoot-out, when they defeated Arsenal in the Cup-winners' Cup Final in the Heysel stadium, Brussels, in 1980.

●COMPETITION began in the old Inter-Cities Fairs' Cup in 1955 BEFORE the Champions' Cup got under way.

●THE European Supercup was launched in 1972-73. It is a competition between the holders of the Champions' Cup and Cup-winners' Cup. The Supercup owed its inauguration to the reluctance of successive Champions' Cup-winners risking life and limb playing their South American counterparts for the World Club Cup.

●THE Champions' Cup was the brainchild of Gabriel Hanot, a former France international fullback who later became Editor of the daily sports newspaper, L'Equipe.

●THE UEFA Cup was inaugurated to replace the Fairs' Cup in 1971-72. Permanent possession of the old Fairs' Cup was won by Barcelona after a play-off between the first (Barcelona) and last (Leeds) winners of the trophy.

●TWO British sides were prevented from defending their trophies because of crowd trouble. One were Everton, who won the Cup-winners' Cup in 1985 before the ban on English clubs following Heysel; the others were Rangers, banned because of hooliganism among fans celebrating their victory over Moscow Dynamo at the 1972 Cup-winners' Cup Final.

●MIODRAG BELODEDIC became the first man to win the Champions' Cup with two different clubs when Red Star Belgrade beat Marseille last season. Belodidic was sweeper of the Steaua Bucharest side which beat Barcelona in 1986.

●ONLY one Champions' Cup Final was ever replayed - the 1974 final in which Bayern Munich beat Atletico Madrid 4-0 after a 1-1 extra time draw.

●A LONDON Select XI was the first British side to appear in a European final. They lost to Barcelona in the 1958 Fairs' Cup Final. The first British club to appear in a European final were Birmingham. Their appearance in the first leg of the 1960 Fairs' Cup Final was two months' ahead of Rangers' Cup-winners' duel against Fiorentina.

●REAL Madrid's Argentine-born centre-forward, Alfredo Di Stefano, scored in the first five Champions' Cup finals.

●STEAUA Bucharest became, in 1986, the first eastern European club to win the Champions' Cup when they beat Barcelona on penalties after a goalless draw in Seville.

Penalty Puzzle

DID you know that there have been 82 penalty shoot-outs in European competitions since they were introduced in 1970-71?

Marseille were the first team to lose a shoot-out, when Spartak Trnava knocked them out of the Fairs' Cup in the first round in 1970-71.

Barcelona were the first side to take part in shoot-outs in each of the three European competitions: UEFA Cup 1977-78, Cup-winners' Cup 1978-79 and Champions' Cup 1985-86.

COMPLETE LIST OF EUROPEAN TIES WON ON PENALTY SHOOT-OUTS (UP TO JUNE 1991)

YEAR	CHAMPIONS' CUP	CUP-WINNERS' CUP	UEFA CUP
70-71	2nd Everton v Borussia Mg 1-1, 1-1	1st Aberdeen v Honved 1-3, 3-1 2nd Benfica v Vorwaerts Berlin 2-0, 0-2	1st Spartak Trnava v Marseille 2-0, 2-0 2nd Newcastle v Pecs Dozsa 2-0, 0-2
71-72	SF Inter v Celtic 0-0, 0-0	1st Dynamo Berlin v Cardiff City 1-1, 1-1 SF Dynamo Berlin v Moscow Dynamo 1-1, 1-1	QF Ferencvaros v Zeljeznicar 1-2, 2-1
72-73			3rd Ararat Erevan v Kaiserslautern 2-0, 0-2
73-74	1st Bayern Munich v Atvidaberg 3-1, 1-3 QF Spartak Trnava v Ujpest Dozsa 1-1, 1-1		2nd Leeds v Hibernian 0-0, 0-0 QF Ipswich v Lokomotive Leipzig 1-0, 0-1
74-75		1st Malmo v Sion 1-0, 0-1 1st Gwardia Warsaw v Bologna 2-1, 1-2 1st Slavia Prague v Carl Zeiss Jena 1-0, 0-1 QF Real Madrid v Red Star Belgrade 2-0, 0-2	1st Lokomotive Plovdiv v Raba Eto Gyor 3-1, 1-3 2nd Derby v Atletico Madrid 2-2, 2-2 2nd Dynamo Dresden v Moscow Dynamo 1-0, 0-1
75-76	1st Malmo v Magdeburg 2-1, 1-2	2nd Fiorentina v Sachsenring Zwickau 1-0, 0-1	2nd Carl Zeiss Jena v Stal Mielec 1-0, 0-1 3rd Ajax v Levski Spartak 2-1, 1-2
76-77			2nd Wisla Krakow v RWD Molenbeek 1-1, 1-1 QF QPR v AEK Athens 3-0, 0-3
77-78	1st Benfica v Moscow Torpedo 0-0, 0-0 QF Ajax v Juventus 1-1, 1-1	2nd Diosgyor v Hajduk Split 2-1, 1-2 2nd Moscow Dynamo v Uni. Craiova 2-0, 0-2 QF Austria-WAC v Hajduk Split 1-1, 1-1 SF Moscow Dynamo v Austria-WAC 2-1, 1-2	2nd AZ 67 Alkmaar v Barcelona 1-1, 1-1 2nd RWD Molenbeek v Carl Zeiss Jena 1-1, 1-1 3rd Ipswich v Barcelona 3-0, 0-3
78-79	1st Partizan Belgrade v Dyn. Dresden 2-0, 0-2	2nd Anderlecht v Barcelona 3-0, 0-3	1st Milan v Lokomotive Koscise 1-0, 0-1
79-80		F Valencia v Arsenal 0-0 (5-4)	
80-81			2nd Widzew Lodz v Juventus 3-1, 1-3 3rd Grasshoppers v Torino 2-1, 1-2
81-82			1st Eintracht Frankfurt v PAOK Salonika 2-0, 0-2 2nd Lokomotive Leipzig v Velez Mostar 1-1, 1-1 2nd Grasshoppers v Radnicki Nis 2-0, 0-2
82-83			2nd AS Roma v IFK Norrkoping 1-0, 0-1
83-84	F AS Roma v Liverpool 1-1 (2-4)		1st Hadjuk Split v Universitatea Craiova 1-0, 0-1 2nd PAOK Salonika v Bayern Munich 0-0, 0-0 F Tottenham v Anderlecht 1-1, 1-1 (4-3)
84-85	1st Aberdeen v Dynamo Berlin 2-1, 1-2 QF Bordeaux v Dnepr. 1-1, 1-1		1st Real Betis v Universitatea Craiova 1-0, 0-1 2nd Ajax v Bohemians Prague 1-0, 0-1 2nd Sporting Lisbon v Minsk Dynamo 2-0, 0-2 QF Manchester United v Videoton 1-0, 0-1
85-86	SF IFK Gothenburg v Barcelona 3-0, 0-3 F Steaua Bucharest v Barcelona 0-0 (2-0)		1st Hamburg v Sparta Rotterdam 2-0, 0-2 QF Hajduk Split v Waregem 1-0, 0-1
86-87	2nd Juventus v Real Madrid 1-0, 0-1	1st Real Zaragoza v AS Roma 2-0, 0-2 SF Bordeaux v Lokomotive Leipzig 0-1, 1-0	1st Boavista v Fiorentina 1-0, 0-1 1st Toulouse v Napoli 1-0, 0-1
87-88	F PSV Eindhoven v Benfica 0-0, (6-5)	1st Hajduk Split v Aalborg 1-0, 0-1	2nd Beveren v Vitoria Guimaraes 1-0, 0-1 2nd Sportul Studentesc v Brondby 3-0, 0-3 F Espanol v Bayer Leverkusen 3-0, 0-3 (2-3)
88-89	2nd Red Star Belgrade v Milan 1-1, 1-1	2nd Lech Poznan v Barcelona 1-1, 1-1	2nd Belenenses v Velez Mostar 0-0, 0-0
89-90		QF Monaco v Real Valladolid 0-0, 0-0	
90-91	2nd Malmo v Dynamo Dresden 1-1, 1-1 2nd Moscow Spartak v Napoli 0-0, 0-0 F Red Star Belgrade v Marseille 0-0 (5-3)	1st Neuchatel Xamax v Estrela Amadora 1-1, 1-1	1st PAOK Salonika v Sevilla 0-0, 0-0 2nd Partizan Belgrade v Real Sociedad 1-0, 0-1 3rd Bologna v Admira-WAC 3-0, 0-3 QF Moscow Torpedo v Brondby 1-0, 0-1

Note: Underlined teams won on penalties

Arsenal's Graham Rix after missing the decisive penalty in the 1980 Cup-winners' Cup Final.

Roma v Liverpool, 1984 Champions' Cup Final.

Tottenham v Anderlecht, 1984 UEFA Cup Final.

THE TOP 20

THE TOP 20 CLUBS IN EUROPE'S THREE CLUB COMPETITIONS: THEIR COMPLETE RECORDS UP TO JUNE 1991. ***Note:*** *Based on points system, 2pts for a win and 1pt for a draw.*

Yrs	Club	P	W	D	L	F	A
35	Real Madrid	235	133	38	64	514	254
36	Barcelona	233	124	49	60	459	254
31	Juventus	208	122	36	50	368	177
24	Bayern Munich	178	101	39	38	372	175
32	Benfica	179	88	42	49	324	177
31	Anderlecht	176	95	26	55	336	224
29	Inter Milan	178	87	41	50	283	161
24	Koln	158	83	29	46	308	183
21	**Liverpool**	**140**	**84**	**26**	**30**	**278**	**106**
32	Red Star Belgrade	167	81	30	56	321	224
24	Milan	151	77	35	39	268	147
27	Ajax	135	76	19	40	262	133
30	**Rangers**	**147**	**70**	**27**	**50**	**245**	**193**
16	Borussia Mg	115	68	25	22	261	125
19	Hamburg	125	70	20	35	252	147
26	Atletico Madrid	130	69	21	40	210	143
27	**Celtic**	**128**	**66**	**24**	**38**	**235**	**126**
30	Sporting Lisbon	135	57	32	46	243	160
20	Kiev Dynamo	106	59	25	22	173	84
19	Valencia	111	54	26	31	205	135

Liverpool, Britain's top European side.

Arsenal play FK Austria and Celtic take on Germinal Ekeren.

Marseille travel to US Luxembourg and Monaco to Swansea City.

Above: Anderlecht were drawn at home to Grasshoppers and PSV away to Besiktas in the Champions' Cup. Below: Sampdoria meet Rosenborg and Kaiserslautern play hosts to Etar Tirnovo.

CSKA Moscow face Roma and Benfica play Hamrun Spartans of Malta.